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THE BRITISH NAVY AND ITS PROSPECTS.

We shall shortly have our Baltic Fleet, and its renowned commander, Dundas, safe at home in British waters. Dundas will retain his advantage over Napier to the last, we fear; since Sir Charles is likely to remain out of Southwark for want of money, as he remained out of Sweaborg for want of gun-boats. The battle is not always to the strong, in days when so much depends on machinery, and when machinery is given or withheld at the pleasure of such compounds of cunning and meanness as Sir James Graham.

Dundas must come home, for the obvious reason that the weather will no longer enable him to stay out. Like Napoleon, (in this one respect,) the "elements" are against him. Hurricanes were blowing last time we heard of him—and, though no ships have been lost, this fact is not owing to Dundas, but to the skill of individual officers who command crews licked into seaman-like shape during the command of Napier, in spite of every obstacle which an Admiralty, managed by an intriguer and a joker, suffered to accumulate. Our business now—at the close of the season—and while the Income-Tax Commissioners are preparing to swinge us for the expenses of the armament,—our business is to inquire what Dundas has done for us, and then, by an easy transition, to proceed to the general question of the navy and its management.

One great delusion in these times, is the popular notion that *all* power increases in the same proportion that the power of machinery increases. We forget that machinery must at last be managed by men, and that iron and wood to any extent is useless without brains. Build a new church with admirable arrangements, on the principles of acoustics, and no matter how well you hear—if the gentleman in the pulpit has nothing but twaddle to communicate. The electric telegraph is important only in proportion as you have sense to send along the wires. We now see that steamers, and shells, floating batteries, and what not, will do no more for the national honour than was done by the old school of seamen with ships at which a Cockney yachtsman of these times turns up his nose. And what is important to the English people is this, that machinery, with its perfect impartiality, has always a tendency—if we neglect other considerations for its sake—to bring us down. Our forte always

was producing men. England—as the Greek poet says of Greece—"was a man-abounding land." But if men do not adapt themselves to the new positions of things, they suffer for it; and we seem to fancy here that we need not make the same exertions under the new conditions, which our ancestors did under the old ones. In the last American war we found out the mistake of trusting to the old system, and sending out ships, to tackle their superiors. Now, we have fallen into the other mistake of fitting out strong ships, and not minding what men we put into them. In other words, our practical machinery is considered sufficient, without our moral machinery being attended to in proportion.

Let us take the case of this Baltic Fleet as an illustration. The blockade has been very good, we admit. The Russian fleet has been kept in its harbours, like a rat in its hole; to the surprise, we dare say, of an English captain who some years ago wrote a pamphlet on the progress of the Russian navy, and was dismissed from his ship (for having his eyes about him), instant! But for any bold or inventive project, where are we to look? We have nothing to show in the way of an achievement but the Sweaborg business. Here was a capital specimen of our dependence on machinery. Till gun and mortar boats came, we were helpless; why they tarried, nobody can tell. When they arrived they were planted at a distance—fired for a day or so,—and nothing further followed. The rudimentary notion that you must fire a gun if you have one, was carried out; but no designing intellect, no genius, showed itself; no plan was hit on for using these wonderful boats for the reduction of the place. Any gunner of the squadron could have done what the admiral did. He shelled the arsenal, and then left it to recover at its leisure. And it was brought forward as a proof of his superiority to Napier that he had done with gun and mortar boats, what Napier had not done because he did not possess them.

We are not going to maintain that Dundas should have attacked stone walls with his line-of-battle ships; we have said before that men of science do not recommend that experiment. But surely all that was known long before the Russian war broke out. An admiral ought to be familiar with all that kind of knowledge, just as a scholar knows his classics. Nobody will maintain, surely, that those upon whose sagacity the British navy depends, did not know that

gun and mortar boats were useful inventions, and that the navigation about Sweaborg was a difficult business?

"What should I have done?" is the kind of answer the British public gets now-a-days. To which its fair reply is: "That is your business. Our business is to welcome the results, not to teach you what it is disgraceful to you not to know."

There is no doubt that the Russians have been very busy all this year in strengthening their position in the Baltic. They are always adopting the newest inventions of Europe. Europe can scarcely surpass them in machinery: its one course is to surpass them in the use of machinery. It is nonsense to suppose that mechanics will make up for the want of men. Screw-propellers have no inspiration in them; nor will a Lancaster gun give genius to an old woman. There is wood and iron enough in one shape or another at the service of the British navy. We are gorged with shot and shell; and as for ships—why, we build and launch them with an ease and an expense reminding one of Shelley's paper boat on the Serpentine, which he made out of a fifty-pound Bank of England note.

If we come to men—why, the raw material is plentiful and good. The officers consist of the most adventurous and active of the aristocracy, gentry, and middle classes of England. The men are of the best marine breed in the world.

But if we ask what is the organisation—what the system—by which we develop and control this material, it must be answered that it is vicious and imperfect. Our promotion system is bad; our training system is bad. There are but two ways that a man can rise to high rank,—by political interest, or by living to seventy Dundas owed his appointment—not to service, for he was never heard of, except in China,—but to connection, for he is the grandson of Lord Melville. He is of a family of jobbers. His grandfather reduced electioneering corruption to a system; the descendants are as ready to make a market of Whig as he was of Tory ascendancy. The admiral was promoted so rapidly as to be ready for this high rank at an unusually early period of life; and now he is in the Baltic, because the late Lord Melville was a great man in Scottish boroughs.

Of course, there are men of parts and ambition scattered over the service. But it requires men of a similar stamp to find them out.



PICKET IN A GARDEN NEAR THE WORONZOW ROAD.—(FROM A SKETCH BY LIEUT. HARVEY, 77TH REGIMENT.)



A child of corruption has a natural antipathy to them. They are a standing reproach to him. Besides, the tone of a profession depends on its leaders. When men find out such hoary old incapables as the late Sir Edward Owen (Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean), in command, it chills all their aspirations. The harm done, positively, by such an appointment, is added to, negatively, by the discouragement it creates amongst those who ought to be the rising hopes of a profession—but for whom there is no rising and no hopes.

There are not proper pains taken in the navy to secure professional competency. The examination which admits, scarcely ensures correct spelling. The seamanship-examination at the end of six years is not a fixed standard, but depends on three captains who conduct it. Beyond that, all depends on money, connection, and luck. The evil is interwoven with our political system. Government must have votes, and for votes they barter appointments. Of course, it is upon money that power chiefly depends; so the money standard is daily more powerful in the navy. Hence, expensive messes, and a narrower range of selection for appointments. But why should not the sons of poorer gentlemen who enter, have some way of making up for their want of cash? Give them some inducement to spend in study the time which Fitz-Goldner, Paul Bates, Esq., and the Hon. Pepper Poulet spend in ices, horse-riding, boat-sailing, and apoplectic torpor. Give prize-commissions. Encourage generous emulation. Expose the ass. It would be cheaper to give Poulet sea-air in a Government yacht than to send him in command of the *Pealien* with his piano and his portrait of Annabel to fight our country's enemies. Of course he can fight. But times are changed; fighting grows more scientific; we must increase our care to provide men who have skill, knowledge, and character, as well as pluck. The materials are good; we want a better use of them; for a better use of materials not superior to our own is made in Russia and in France. At present, we have a halfpenny-worth of governing talent to a monstrous heap of machinery. So, Dundas is coming home with one solitary laurel, (gained at the expense of a more distinguished man); and, for aught we know, will revisit the Baltic next year, to do no more than he has done this season.

PICKET NEAR SEBASTOPOL.

In a garden adjacent to the Woronzow Road, and in one of the pleasantest outskirts of the town of Sebastopol, a picket of English soldiers has been established, as a check upon that vile habit of pillaging in which the French troops, unchecked by their officers, are ever so ready to indulge, but in which we are proud to say our own soldiers appear to have taken no part. Three guard-tents have been pitched for the men, and one for the officer in command of the party. Before the summer had quite passed away, the leafy shades of the fine trees that lined this pleasant garden, used to attract the Turks going to and from the town, who would here halt a while and smoke their sociable chibouque. Fragments of shot and shell lay scattered around this charming spot, and all of the trees were more or less damaged by these missiles. The embrasures at the summit of the distant slope are those of the Redan, over which the English flag continues flying.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

GENERAL CANROBERT has left Paris for Stockholm, with the ostensible object of delivering to King Oscar the Grand Cordon of the Legion of Honour. The mission of the distinguished soldier, however, is supposed to be, in reality, of a much more important nature.

The Archbishop of Paris has addressed a pastoral letter to the clergy of his diocese, ordering prayers to be offered up for the safe delivery of the Emperor.

The subjoined announcement has appeared in the "Moniteur":—

"On the 15th of August last the French ship of war *La Gorgone*, at anchor in the port of Messina, celebrated the fête of the Emperor. The Military Commandant of the place, although apprised of the celebration by the Vice-Consul of France and by the Civil Intendant of Messina, did not comply with the usage customary between friendly nations, and did not hoist the Neapolitan flag.

"The Government of the Emperor having complained of this want of courtesy, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies has, by order of his Sovereign, forwarded to the Minister Plenipotentiary of his Imperial Majesty at Naples a note, which happily concludes this disagreeable incident.

"The Neapolitan Government expresses its regret that the Military Commandant of Messina should not have complied with the intimation given him by the Civil Intendant; and it gives the assurance that formal instructions will prevent in future in all the ports of the Two Sicilies the omission that has occasioned the just complaints of the Government of the Emperor."

SPAIN.

THE Madrid journals of the 18th state that the Queen of Spain has conferred the Ribbon of the Order of Noble Ladies of Maria Louisa on the Marquise de Turgot, French Ambassador, and on Mrs. Otway, wife of the Secretary of the English Legation, on the occasion of the taking of Sebastopol.

The King is reported to be now in good health. The Tarragona faction is destroyed. Its leader has been made prisoner.

The Government has communicated to the Cortes a bill relative to the theatres.

A decree regulating the floating debt has been issued. Two hundred millions of paper are to be issued, bearing interest, and to be taken if offered in payment of taxes.

AUSTRIA.

It is stated that the Austrian Government meditates important changes in its passport system, so as to afford the same facilities for travelling as exist in France, and no doubt hoping thereby to induce speculators to purchase their Italian railways.

Rumours are afloat at Vienna, that during the last few weeks there has been, through a diplomatic channel, an exchange of opinions between the Courts of Vienna and Paris, respecting the interpretation of the fresh demands which are to be made to Russia, and which demands the Allied Powers consider to be the legitimate consequences of the late military results. It appears that up to the present moment the Allies of December the 2nd have not succeeded in coming to an understanding on this delicate point, and the reasons of this non-success may be stated as follows. The Western Powers intend detaching the whole of the Crimea from the rest of Russia, because in their eyes this will be the easiest mode, first, of indemnifying themselves for the expenses of the war; and, second, of rendering impossible for ever the realisation of the plans entertained by Catherine the Great and her successors, since the Northern Power would thus be prevented from developing her navy so as to menace the equilibrium of Europe. In principle, Austria appears, it is true, to be not disinclined to adopt such an arrangement, but she nevertheless considers it out of her power to adhere to it in an effective manner, until the Allies shall first of all, by compelling the Russians to retire, have seized *de facto* the Tauric peninsula, and definitively organised a form of government in that country.

Prince Metternich, the veteran politician of Austria, will arrive at Vienna to-day (Saturday), intending, as is his wont, to spend the winter in the capital.

PRUSSIA.

THE King, accompanied by the Royal Princes and a numerous party, left Potsdam on the 24th ult., for the purpose of holding the usual annual hunts at Letzingen, and was joined at the Magdeburg station by his brother-in-law, John, King of Saxony.

As a proof of the light in which the Prussians themselves consider their constitution, may be mentioned the significant fact, that at the late elections, out of 75,497 registered voters in the circle of Dantzic alone, not more than 6,020 could be induced to appear at the poll and give their votes.

RUSSIA.

A LETTER from Odessa, dated Oct. 25, states that the Emperor of Russia has gone to Elizabethgrad. It was reported that he had sprained his ankle. A new ukase orders a general levy of 400,000 men for active service, to repulse the imminent attacks of the enemy.

Prince Gortschakoff is said to have received full powers from the Czar, through General Staekelberg, to defend or abandon the Crimea—according to circumstances.

Preparations to have been recommenced at Warsaw, we hear, for the reception of the Emperor on such an extensive scale as to lead to the conclusion that his Majesty will spend part of the winter in the Polish capital. The precise period of his arrival is not yet known, but it is expected that he will remain in the proximity of the scene of war until the close of the present campaign; and it is now again said that, if peace is not concluded in the course of the winter, he will head the army in the spring.

The rumour of religious discontent in the Empire is confirmed by a Government circular just issued to the Russian clergy:—"He who doubts the Czar to be the sole protector of the Orthodox Church, is declared to be an apostate."

ITALY.

THE concordat between Austria and Rome has been much discussed at Venice and Milan, and doubts seem to be felt as to its ever being ratified; indeed, much astonishment was expressed at its ever having arrived at its present stage, considering the known anxiety of the Emperor to maintain his Government independent, as much as possible, of all external power.

The "Armonia" states that the Italians are divided into no less than ten political parties, namely:—1. The Republican, or Mazzini party, which is anxious to substitute the Republic for the Monarchy, and constitute the whole of Italy into one Republic; 2. The Constitutional party, which is willing to preserve Monarchy and Ferdinand II. himself, provided he re-establishes the Constitution and the Parliamentary system; 3. The Piedmontese party, which accepts Monarchy, but wishes to substitute the Constitutional King of Piedmont for the legitimate Sovereign; 4. The party of the Regency, which has seceded from the Piedmontese party, and prefers placing on the throne of the Two Sicilies a son of the King of Sardinia, with a Regency; 5. The Muratist party, which desires to put on the throne the son of Joachim Murat; 6. The Muratist party, who prefer the grandson to his father Lucien Murat; 7. The party of abdication, which, not being hostile to the dynasty, are anxious that King Ferdinand should abdicate in favour of his son; 8. The constituent party, which proposes that the country should be consulted as to the expediency of establishing a Republic or a Monarchy, and electing to that effect a constituent assembly; 9. The Sicilian party, to which all pretenders or forms of Government are indifferent, provided Sicily be independent; and 10. The English party, which puts forward the son of the Prince of Capua.

PIEDMONT.

THE King of Sardinia has issued a decree, enacting that the warm clothing required for the Sardinian troops in the Crimea during the coming winter, and not comprised in their ordinary kit, is to be delivered to them gratuitously. Among the articles mentioned are worsted gloves and stockings, blankets, camp-hoods, large boots, &c. By another decree a levy of 13,000 men, the usual annual number, is authorised for 1855. His Majesty's health is now so far restored that he will, according to present arrangements, be in Paris by the middle of this month. In all probability he will be present on the 15th, at the closing of the Universal Exhibition. His Majesty will be received at the Tuilleries, and not at St. Cloud, it being apprehended that in his convalescent state he would find the latter residence too cold in November.

TURKEY.

RECENT accounts from Constantinople state that the entire of the Turkish Contingent, which was encamped near Buyukderé, has, except a portion of the cavalry, sailed for Kertch. The contingent is ultimately to number 30,000. Two batteries of British artillery, two thousand French and two thousand English regular soldiers, together with three thousand men of a Polish cavalry corps, are to be incorporated with the contingent. The artillery, the Anglo-French four thousand men, and the three thousand Poles, are intended to enforce order, in case of necessity, amongst the Mussulman troops. General Beaton had left for England, and the command of the Bashi-Bazouks had been given to Brigadier-General Smith, second in command of the contingent cavalry under Major-General Shirley. It had been finally determined that General Shirley, with the whole of the cavalry under his orders, shall proceed with the rest of the contingent to the Straits of Yenikale. The town of Yenikale will be the head-quarters of the force under General Vivian. Sir John Stewart, Bart., aide-de-camp to General Vivian, was detained at Pera by illness.

Abd-el-Kader has arrived at Constantinople.

GREECE.

ROBBERIES around Athens are becoming every day more frequent, and brigands are showing themselves in provinces, which have enjoyed a long period of tranquillity. A part of Locrida and the Peloponnese, which had, during several months, been freed from this scourge, was again assailed by it. A village in the vicinity of Nauplie had been attacked by banditti, and in Aegarnia two bands of robbers were prowling about the country. The causes of this unhappy state of things will scarcely admit of a clear explanation; for, at this period of the year, the bands of robbers have usually dispersed and taken up their winter quarters, where they remained till the approach of spring, when they recommenced their predatory incursions.

One of the robbers, who belonged to a part of the band which had carried off a French captain of artillery, and who had been captured by the steam-boat sent in pursuit of them by Admiral Jacquinot, confessed that his object was to assassinate General Kalergis, who, as they had been informed, had gone that day to the Piræus. This confession is a confirmation of the fact already known, that the same band which, in July last, had stopped two English officers returning from Pentelieus, had, at that time, stationed themselves on the road to Athens with this intention.

MEXICO.

ACCOUNTS from Mexico to the 13th ult. state that the garrison at the capital had sworn allegiance to General Alvarez, who had formed a new Ministry. General Conde had been appointed Commandant-General, in place of La Vega, removed.

The "New York Herald" says:—"There is probably not the slightest foundation for the report that Santa Anna is in Washington. It would be impossible for a man like him to reach that city *incognito*—a man so marked, and with a wooden leg. The truth undoubtedly is, that Santa Anna is now in Venezuela. We learn by a private letter from St. Thomas, of the 16th ult., that he had arrived there *en route* for Caracas, and the only thing that would deter him from proceeding there was the cholera, which prevailed in that province. It was Santa Anna's intention to purchase a plantation in Venezuela, near the capital, for a permanent place of residence. Although he had arrived at St. Thomas with a view of proceeding at once to Caracas, yet he had despatched instructions to Turbaco, near Cartagena, in New Granada, where he formerly resided, to have his house in order, in case he should be constrained to go there for a time."

AUSTRALIA.

MELBOURNE, AUG. 9.—It is said that Sir Charles Hotham's reason for not assembling the Council until November is that the enfranchisement of the diggers cannot take effect until that month; but there is supposed to be another reason behind, namely, that although Sir Charles does not relish certain provisions of the Constitutional Acts, he has the sagacity to perceive that it is necessary in order to placate the public mind. And, indeed, the dilatory habits of the Colonial Office have already produced much discontent, which it is desirable should not be pushed higher by further delays.

Messrs. Louis Loewe and Co. have just established at Richmond, a suburb of Melbourne, and the seat of several factories, a manufactory of stearine candles. At present, the works are capable of turning out about three tons of candles per week, and those who have seen them say that the quality and appearance, they are equal to the best imported. We have plenty of tallow here, and it is said, "Why send tallow home to be made into candles?"

There has been a very considerable failure here lately. The firm of Watts and McKechie have had several meetings of their creditors, those of whom have been appointed to examine their affairs. The liabilities are stated at £68,000, of which £28,000 is owing to English creditors.

AUG. 15.—The price of flour is declining. Fine is £44 to £47 per ton of 2,000lb.; seconds, £40 to £43; wheat is bought at the mills at 16s. to 17s. per bushel.

There have been several meetings of the unemployed lately, and they have had an interview with the Governor. Their object was to induce the Governor to alter the land regulations, so that such of the industrious classes as can command a little money could go upon land for the purpose of cultivating it. The Governor alleged the stringency of the Land Sales.

The War.

THE ALLIED ARMIES ON THE TCHERNAYA.

THE BESIEGED BECOME THE BESIEGERS.

OCT. 13.—On the line of Sebastopol itself we seem evidently to have changed sides with the Russians, and to have become, from an attacking, the attacked party. For the last few days the time of the siege seems to be again revived, and the sound of siege guns, which, since the 8th of September, only interrupted the silence at long intervals, is beginning again to tire the ear with its monotony. The Russians have constructed and armed a series of new batteries and have opened a brisk fire from them against the few French batteries which had been thrown up to annoy them while they were working. It is a repetition of what happened last year, when the formidable line of defence which we had to besiege for 11 months was thrown up in the face of the allied armies, with the only difference that at that time we had but a few siege guns landed, whereas now the whole Chersonese is a large artillery park in our possession.

AMUSING CONSEQUENCES OF ENGLISH CURIOSITY.

The other day, when the Sardinians made their reconnaissance towards Aitodor, an English officer attached to the Turkish army, and another gentleman, a civilian, riding up by Upu and Ozembash, fell in with this Sardinian party, and had a look at the cliffs of Mangup Kaleh, and at the Cossacks down at the river. Not wishing to go back the same road, they turned up towards the French position, which leans now on that of the Piedmontese. When arrived there a French officer came up and asked them who they were, and whence they came; they told their story, but the officer civilly replied that they were coming from the Russian side, and that therefore he was obliged to report about them to the commandant. It was in vain that they pleaded ignorance about ever having been outside of the lines, as the Sardinian outposts were beyond them, and they had seen many French soldiers walking about Ozembash, whence they came. The officer looked for the commandant, who, coming out of the bushes, frowned, and bawled out, "Deux Grenadiers en avant et deux en arrière," and the gentlemen were conducted in true Brown, Jones, and Robinson style, to the General de Brigade. They found him seated in awful majesty under a tree; scarcely returning their salute, and without inquiring into the case, he ordered the corporal of the guard to show them how to blind their eyes with a handkerchief, and then march them off to the General de Division. The two patients, who were rather amused than otherwise at this proceeding, took out their handkerchiefs, but when they saw them of rather doubtful cleanliness they burst out laughing, which seemed to disconcert the General, and he ordered them to be conducted without being blinded. Amusing were the observations of the soldiers on the route of "Ce n'est pas des Russes ça, c'est des Anglais," except a drunken fellow, who, after staring at them, exclaimed "C'est des espions." Thus, amid a continuation of often dull but indescribable observations, they arrived at the General de Division's tent.

THE NEW FRENCH BATTERIES.

These batteries are entirely built of iron, and covered with a shell of the same metal, under which the chimney is lowered and concealed during an action. Trials have been made against this shell with 64-pounders, but they only produced a slight dent, the projectiles themselves rebounding far away. When shot, the batteries look like a tortoise, broader in front than behind. The front battery is armed with 30 guns of the heaviest calibre. The port-holes are in their turn closed by lids, that open of themselves at the moment the gun is fired, and then shut instantly. A small orifice in the lid enables the gunner to take aim.

THE CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

INDICATIONS OF FUTURE MOVEMENTS.

OCT. 15.—A pleasant spot for a camp, in such sunny and delightful weather as we at present enjoy, could hardly be found than the slope beyond the village of Kamara on which the Highlanders have pitched their tents, and whither materials for huts have already been sent in large quantities. Great, nevertheless, was the satisfaction of that gallant Division—now so long inactive—on learning two days ago that it was under orders to embark for Eupatoria. A large number of French (12,000 or 15,000) are to embark at Kamiesch, where, according to one report, the Highlanders also are to embark, as the nearest port for Eupatoria.

The five regiments of cavalry (4th and 13th Light Dragoons, 12th and 17th Lancers, and Carabiniers), are also believed to be all bound for Eupatoria. Captain Montague's company of Sappers and Miners also goes.

In consequence, however, of a telegraphic message just received from Lord Panmure, to the effect that the Russians meditated an attack in the direction of Inkermann, the following portion of the expedition has been countermanded—viz., the Highlanders, two batteries of artillery, and the company of Sappers.

HUTTING AND ROAD-MAKING.—ANTICIPATIONS OF A "MERRY CHRISTMAS."

The English army, convinced that it is to winter in its present camp, has set seriously to work to guard itself from the inclement weather from which it last year suffered so grievously, and to make itself as comfortable as it can. Officers and men are busy with domestic arrangements. Hutting and road-making are the occupations of the hour, and rapid progress is making with both. Whenever we abandon this encampment, we shall leave almost a town behind us. Strong wooden huts are springing up on all sides, and here and there a solid stone dwelling is in course of construction. There will be lots of chimneys smoking this Christmas on the heights before Sebastopol, and, doubtless, many a good dinner will be eaten on that day, and many a glass emptied to those memories and hopes of home which are almost the sole consolation for the many privations that must be endured, even under the most favourable circumstances, by the dwellers in a camp. It is now pleasant to contrast the sufferings of last winter—the cold, exposure, famine, and want of clothing then endured—with the prospect of plenty and almost of comfort during that which approaches, and to observe the activity that prevails to make the most of the ample means supplied.

THE EVACUATION OF THE NORTH SIDE ANTICIPATED.

OCT. 16.—There seems to be some expectation that the Russians intend evacuating the north side. They yesterday made a great fire on their left of Fort Catherine. It is supposed they were burning stores. They had a large depot of coal just about the place where the fire was. On Saturday night the reflection of a great fire was visible from the camp, and still more plainly seen from higher points in this neighbourhood. It was in the direction of Bakshiserai. We are still in ignorance of its cause.

"ANNIE LAURIE" AT THE CAMP.

Of all songs, the favourite song at the camp is "Annie Laurie." Words and music combine to render it popular; for every soldier has a sweet-

heart, and almost every soldier possesses the organ of tune. Every new draught from England marches into regimental quarters at the camp, the band playing this old and recently modernised Scotch melody. I heard the song sung on the evening of the 7th of September, under circumstances so peculiar that I never can forget them. Codrington had visited on parade in the afternoon, and addressed the men. We were told that on the next day the assault was to be made on the Great Redan. "And," said the General, "the Commander-in-Chief feels assured that the Light Division—never known to fail—will again nobly do its duty." This was a sad speech, according to the poetry and the romance of war; a Manchester orator would have said, "The Commander-in-Chief sends his congratulations, and begs to state that at this hour to-morrow about 1,500 of you will be killed or wounded." Every man understood it according to the Manchester version; but, though a few cheeks turned pale, not an eye quaked, not a muscle trembled. About eight in the evening I walked towards the Victoria Redoubt, to gaze for the last time on the terrible batteries of Sebastopol. Hundreds of soldiers were sitting on the other side of the hill looking down on the doomed city. A song was proposed, silence obtained, and a corporal in the 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade started "Annie Laurie." He had a tenor voice, tolerably good, and sang with expression, but the chorus was taken up by the audience in a much lower key, and hundreds of voices in the most exact time and harmony sang together,—

"And for Bonnie Annie Laurie
I'd lay me down and die!"

The effect was extraordinary; at least I felt it so. I never heard any chorus in an oratorio rendered with greater solemnity. The heart of each singer was evidently far away over the sea.—*Letter from the Camp.*

INVENTORY OF ARTICLES FOUND IN SEBASTOPOL BY THE ALLIES.

The following is the inventory of the different articles [the guns not included] found at Sebastopol by the Allies, and forwarded to the Minister of War by Marshal Pelissier:—

The principal articles were round shot, 407,314; hollow projectiles, 101,755; canister cases, 24,080; gunpowder, 325,000lb.; ball cartridges for muskets and rifles, 470,000 in good condition, and 160,000 damaged; wagons, 80; waws, 6; logs of lignum vitae, 500; anchors of port moorings, 400; anchors of different sizes, 90; grapplings and small anchors, 50; chains for anchors, 300 yards; old ropes for slings, 104,000lb.; old ropes, 100,000lb.; water casks, 300; new ropes of different sizes, 50,000lb.; pulleys, 400; spars, 40; tools, 300; bar iron and steel, 1,400,000lb.; iron wire, 400lb.; iron checks, 320lb.; sheet iron, 16,000lb.; tin plate, 14,000lb.; red copper, 120,000lb.; nails, 6,000lb.; firwood, a large quantity; pitch and tar, 200 barrels; barrels of paint, 150; small boilers, 600lb.; the remains of a steam engine of 220-horse power, taken out of a steamer burnt by the Russians; large copper boilers, weighing 100,000lb.; 8; old copper, 100,000lb.; copper screws, 10,000lb.; old iron, 160,000lb.; large bells, 6; small bells, 10; hospital beds, 350; iron forges, in great numbers; main tackles, 12; red, 2,000 tons; steam engines, of 30-horse power, for the basins, 2; large pumps, for the basins, 3; iron boilers, 8; 1 high-pressure engine of 16-horse power, for the basins; iron cranes, 17; an engine of 12-horse power in the military bakery; 2 dredging machines of 30-horse power, unserviceable; a still, a clock, six marble statues, two sphinxes, a large basso-relievo, biscuit, 500 tons; flour, 150; barley, 9; buckwheat, 117; oats, 18; millet, 54; wheat, 20; peas, 1½; salt meat, 60; wheat in the granaries, 500 quarters, &c.

THE TURKISH ARMY IN CIRCASSIA.

ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION OF OMAR PACHA AT SUCHUM KALEH.
Oct. 3.—A little after sunrise this morning, a salute of 19 guns, thundered forth by the men-of-war lying in the harbour, informed the Turkish army encamped at Suchum Kaleh that their Commander-in-Chief had arrived. It was the signal for universal bustle and activity, and in less than half an hour the shore was alive with troops. Infantry, artillery, and cavalry extended themselves in a long line upon the coast, prepared to submit to the scrutinising gaze of the General. As Omar Pacha left the *Cyclops*, the ship manned yards, the merchant vessels were decked out in their gayest flags, the music of regimental bands came across the water, and as he landed, he was saluted by the guns of a fort scarcely yet completed. His Highness at once proceeded to inspect his troops, accompanied by a brilliant staff. The men cheered him as he passed along the line, and, after marching past, the troops repaired to their respective camps. The exertions of Omar Pacha at Batoum have been ably seconded here by Ferhad Pacha, the Chef d'Elat Major, and Ahmet Pacha, the Admiral. The miserable army of Mustapha Pacha, which had become utterly demoralised, can scarcely recognise itself.

ACTIVITY AT SUCHUM AS CONTRASTED WITH BALACLAVA.
Oct. 6.—From sunrise to sunset, Suchum is now a scene of unwearying activity; troops are continually arriving in steamers and transports, and being landed without a moment's delay; and it seldom happens that any one of these vessels remains more than 24 hours in port. The *Etna* arrived yesterday morning at 8 o'clock, disembarked 550 men and 75 horses, and was steaming out of the harbour again at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. A week at Suchum would do an immense deal of good to some of our Balaklava authorities. Here everything is cared for; the men are well supplied with provisions; they are to be encamped upon the hill behind the town, so as to be away from the marsh malaria, and thousands of horses and cattle graze upon the rich pasture of the plains, and share the duties of beasts of burthen with the hardy Bulgarian peasants who have been imported from Varna for that purpose. Their services are especially valuable now, as so much of the camp is situated on the top of a short but steep hill. The houses are very substantial, and have suffered but little from the change of circumstances under which they are now occupied.

THE INDEFATIGABLE EXERTIONS OF OMAR PACHA.
The first object of Omar Pacha, upon arriving at his head-quarters, is always to make himself personally acquainted with the country in the immediate neighbourhood of his camp. After having inspected the hospital and the fortifications which are being erected to the rear of the hill on which they are situated, and galloped over the mountain slopes, covered with fern, in search for the most eligible site for the camp of the battalions still expected, his Highness struck right into the mountains by a narrow path, along which we followed our Abasian guides for about two hours. The path led through a narrow gorge; the sides of the lofty hills which enclosed it were clothed in pendulous forests. So narrow was the valley, and so magnificent the timber, that we seemed almost buried in foliage; wild grapes clambered over the loftiest trees, and hung above us in tempting festoons; gigantic figtrees spread out their fantastic branches loaded with wild, but luscious fruit; apples, pears, and walnuts, all of a fair quality, were to be had for the trouble of stretching out the hand; but the rapidity with which his Highness gets over the ground, removed all danger of our making ourselves ill from any such indulgence.

OMAR PACHA'S GALLANTRY TO THE LADIES.
We splashed along, followed by 50 or 60 mounted orderlies, through mud and jungle, until we emerged upon an open space, on which a village was situated, where the women and children rushed, frightened and crying, into their konaks, and the men collected round the doors, not a little bewildered and astonished at so unusual an apparition. However, they soon regained confidence, and came to kiss the skirts of Omar Pacha's coat, and offer us hospitality. We therefore dismounted at the door of the principal cottage in the village, the only one constructed of planks, and made ourselves comfortable. Omar Pacha, who is eminently gallant, knocked at the door of a room, where a bevy of fair damsels had locked themselves in, and told them there was nothing to be afraid of. He was obliged to exercise his powers of persuasion for some time before he could induce them to open a chink large enough for us to see the sparkle of their eyes. However, they gradually relented, and before we left their shyness had quite disappeared. They spun, embroidered, and netted for our edification, and we were much struck with the ingenuity they manifested in their female accomplishments. One or two of the girls were remarkably pretty, differing neither in complexion nor in the character of their features from those in our own country. Their hands and feet, which were bare, were very small and delicate. Their costume is by no means so picturesque as that of the men, or so well calculated to do justice to the fair wearers. It consists simply of a sort of loose dressing-gown, open at the bosom, and confined with a girdle at the waist. Omar Pacha made presents to the ladies, patted and praised their children, said civil things to the men, and behaved generally very much as if he was soliciting the suffrages of the population at the next general election.

PRINCE MICHAEL APPOINTED GOVERNOR OF SUCHUM.—OMAR PACHA'S DIPLOMACY.

The man whose influence in the country is paramount, but whose sympathies are Russian, is Prince Michael, also called Hamid Bey. In order thoroughly to cement this man to the Turks, Omar Pacha determined to appoint him Civil Governor of Suchum; the ceremony took place with great state; the road was lined with troops from Prince Michael's house to that of Omar Pacha. The captains of the English and French men-of-war, the English Commissioners, and everybody of importance in the place, were present in full dress; the room was also filled with the principal chiefs of the surrounding country, and some of those from distant tribes were present. The group was in the highest degree striking and picturesque. Hamid Bey himself was in full Abasian costume, but evidently little expected the grand public display, the object of which was to give as much importance and publicity as possible to his acceptance of authority from the Porte. While a salute was being fired, Omar Pacha proclaimed him Governor of the town, and, turning to the chiefs present, said, "You have always acknowledged the authority of Hamid Bey; all I ask of you now is to continue to regard him in the same light as you have hitherto done." Everybody seemed immensely pleased, except Hamid Bey, who looked rather as if he felt that he had been taken in, but, after fresh interchange of civilities, he was marched off to his abode. The wife of Hamid Bey is the Princess Dadian, whose authority is paramount in Mingrelia. Her Highness, probably, is beginning to feel uncommonly nervous as she hears of her husband's proceedings. She is now living with a small Russian force in her own province; but there is reason to think she will be as wise as her better half, and hasten to treat with the new comers.

THE VICTORY OF THE TURKS AT KARS.

The Earl of Clarendon has received the following despatch from Brigadier-General Williams:—

"Kars, Sept. 29, 1855.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to inform your Lordship that General Mouraviev, with the bulk of his army, at day-dawn this morning, attacked our entrenched position on the heights above Kars, and on the opposite side of the river. The battle lasted, without a moment's intermission, for nearly seven hours, when the enemy was driven off in the greatest disorder, with the loss of 2,500 dead, and nearly double that number of wounded, who were, for the most part, carried off by the retreating enemy. Upwards of 4,000 muskets were left on the field.

"Your Lordship can, without a description on my part, imagine the determination of the assailants, and the undaunted courage of the troops who defended the position for so many hours.

"I have great gratification in acquainting your Lordship with the gallant conduct of Lieut.-Colonel Lake, Major Teesdale, and Captain Thompson, who rendered the most important service in defending the redoubts of Veli Pacha Tabia, Tahmak Tabia, and Arab Tabia. I beg to recommend these officers to your Lordship's protection.

"I also beg to name my secretary, Mr. Churchill, an attaché of her Majesty's mission in Persia. He directed the fire of a battery throughout the action, and caused the enemy great loss.

"I also beg to draw your Lordship's attention to the gallant bearing of Messrs. Zohrab and Renisson, who, as interpreters to Lieutenant-Colonel Lake and Major Teesdale, rendered very effective service. Dr. Sandwith has been most active and efficient in the management of the ambulances and in the hospital arrangements.

"We are now employed in the burial of the dead, and I will have the honour, by the next messenger, of detailing the movements of this eventful day.

"Our loss was about 700 killed and wounded.—I have, &c.,
The Earl of Clarendon, &c. (Signed) W. F. WILLIAMS."

FRENCH ACCOUNT.

Two hours before sunrise on the 29th of September, the Russian troops, from 35,000 to 40,000 in number, and formed in several deep columns, attacked the works placed on the hills to the north of Kars. The intention of the Russians was to gain possession of these heights, which, once in the power of the enemy, would have rendered any further resistance on the part of the garrison impossible. All the efforts of the enemy were, therefore, concentrated on the redoubt of Tahmak Tabia and the two others adjoining, called the English and Arab Redoubts. The first-named, which was considered the key to the others, was energetically defended by Ismail Pacha (General Kmeti), whose bravery and enthusiasm completely electrified the troops. Four times did the Russians gain possession of the redoubts, and were driven out at the point of the bayonet by the Turkish soldiers, led on by General Kmeti. After a desperate combat, which lasted seven hours, the Russians were compelled to give way. It could not be even said that they made a retreat, for they retired in complete disorder, followed into the plain by the victorious Turks, who took one hundred prisoners and one piece of artillery. The fatigue of the troops and the want of cavalry would not allow of the pursuit being long kept up. If only a small force of cavalry had been at hand, the slaughter among the flying Russians would have been immense. Such was the confusion among the enemy, that it took them five hours to collect their scattered battalions into anything like order. On the 30th, the Turks had buried 4,000 Russians, whose bodies filled the ditches and redoubts, and it is calculated that as many more, in killed and wounded, were removed during the action. The loss of the Turks amounts to about 1,200 in killed and wounded, and among the former are several superior officers, who met a glorious death at the head of their men. The highest praise must be given to the admirable arrangements made for the defence by Vassif Pacha, in concert with General Williams; as well as to the skill displayed by General Colman, who directed the engineering department, and the daring courage and energy of General Kmeti.

The Russian account states, "Our loss is not exactly known, but it is very considerable. The enemy also must have sustained heavy loss. Amongst our generals, the Lieutenant-Generals Kovalevsky and Prince Gagarin, and Major-General Bronovsky, are grievously wounded, and Major-General Maydel less dangerously. The blockade of Kars is re-established as before."

A letter in the "Cologne Gazette," dated Vienna, Oct. 26th, states that a report was current in Constantinople on the 16th, that General Mouraviev's army had commenced its retreat across the Arpatstchai.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

The letters received at Erzeroum on the 9th ult. state that the Russians left 9,475 men dead in the entrenchments, and that about 6,000 killed and wounded were carried away on 2,400 cars, and that the total loss of the Russians is calculated at 20,000 men. About 12,000 Russian muskets were picked up on the field of battle by the Turkish soldiers, and by the inhabitants of Kars. These were sold in the city for five piastres (tenpence) each. The soldiers have reaped a great harvest of booty. Some have obtained in watches, rings, money, &c., as much as 70,000 piastres. One of the least fortunate made as much as 1,000 piastres by spoils taken from the Russians. The enemy in their flight left on the field knapsacks with provisions for three days, cloaks, &c. Amongst the killed on the side of the Russians are 275 officers of all ranks. The damage done to the entrenchments during the battle were repaired in the night following, and the next morning every man was at his post ready to repulse a second attack.

THE NEW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.—It is now certain that General Sir William Codrington, who is under 50 years of age, is to succeed to the command of the British army in the East. By this time he has no doubt received the intelligence, and possibly is already installed in his new and arduous position. The appointment appears to give general satisfaction. In a former number of our journal (page 276), we gave a portrait and memoir of the gallant General, to which we refer our readers for particulars respecting his military career. Sir William Codrington is eldest surviving son of Admiral Codrington, who won the battle of Navarino.

OUR WAR MINISTER AND HIS DUTIES.—Lord Pamure rises at an early hour, and has breakfast at 7 o'clock a.m. At 8 o'clock, he proceeds to the War Office, where he is wholly occupied until 4 o'clock p.m., his Lordship's dinner-hour. After dinner, which hardly occupies an hour, Lord Pamure returns to business, and such is the press of matters of importance to which his attention is directed, that from that hour until 12 o'clock at night, and sometimes 4 in the morning, he is rarely ever known to leave the War Office.

MAJOR-GENERAL MARKHAM.—This gallant warrior arrived at Southampton last week from the Crimea. His legs are said to be so swollen that he can hardly walk. Although not fifty years of age, he looks almost seventy. His face is very thin, and is literally black with exposure to the sun. He wears an immense beard, which is quite gray. He was the first to leave the Nubia, and was assisted to walk by his aide-de-camp.

THE CAPTURE OF KINBURN.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Dnieper Bay, Oct. 18th.

We arrived off Kiabura Spit in the afternoon, and on the following morning, Monday, the 14th, the day being very fine, we commenced disembarking the troops on the Spit, about two miles to the right of the town of Kinburn, which is about a quarter of a mile to the right of the Fort. The boats never ceased working during the day, and by eight o'clock at night the whole were disembarked, 5,000 English (including two field-batteries of artillery) and 8,000 French. It was fortunate the landing was effected on that day, for on the two following days, the 15th and 16th, the weather was such, and the surf on the beach so heavy, that neither horses nor artillery could possibly have been landed, while the disembarking of the troops would have been attended with the greatest difficulty.

The anxiety in the fleets on these two days was very great, as the weather would not permit them to commence operations, a smooth sea, as I observed before, being essential to the effectual manœuvring of the gun-boats and mortar-vessels. The morning of the 17th dawned dull and threatening, with rain; but a fresh breeze was blowing off the land, which would soon make and keep a smooth sea. At seven a.m., the British Admiral signalled the French Admiral, "I intend to attack to-day." At eight a.m., "Gun-boats and mortar-vessels up steam." At about nine a.m., the three French floating batteries got under way, and began steaming towards their station, 600 yards off Fort Kinburn; at the same time the English and French mortar-vessels took up their stations off the same fort; and in a few minutes, the floating batteries having secured their station, the fort began to open fire upon them, and upon the *Argus* and *Arrow* gun-boats, that were approaching to draw the fire off the floating batteries till they had anchored. Presently the *Argus* opened fire with Lancaster shell, and the *Arrow* rounding-to at about 800 yards distance, commenced firing. The gaze of the whole of both fleets within sight of the *Arrow*, was at this moment upon her, as the beautiful little thing glided along amidst what appeared to be, as they fell in the water, a perfect shower of cannon-balls, from the fort; and under the whizzing of shells from the English and French mortar-boats at a long distance outside of her. After the fourth or fifth gun from her, her firing appeared to be slow, even for a vessel with only two guns, and it was thought she must have been struck by some of the shot which we all thought had missed her. In a few minutes afterwards, she ceased firing, and began to retrace her adventurous steps, everybody thinking she must be severely injured, especially as we could clearly discern a considerable portion of her starboard side knocked away. As she neared the fleet, now preparing to weigh, she signalled, "Both guns burst." As she passed up to the Admiral, she was anxiously hailed by every ship, "Anybody hurt?" to which they received the almost unexpected, and I may add gratifying, answer, "Only two men—one seriously and one slightly." I say gratifying, because it seemed miraculous to everybody that, seeing the terrible fire she had passed through, and the damage she had sustained, as well as the extraordinary accident that had occurred on board of her, that she should have had so few casualties. In the morning, it is said that her commander remarked, he hoped—

"The sweet little cherub that sits up aloft,
Would keep watch o'er the life of poor Jack."

Your readers will probably believe that the prayer must have been heard and granted.

By 11 o'clock a.m., the floating batteries and mortar-vessels were in full operation, and in spite of the well directed fire of the enemy were beginning to make a visible impression on his works. A building inside his fort had been set on fire, and was now beginning to emit clouds of smoke. All this while, the earth batteries had been firing a long range upon the floating batteries and upon such of our ships as came within their range in passing down to Fort Kinburn. The steam squadron now began to take up position and open fire upon them, under the orders of Rear-Admiral Stewart, in the *Valorous*. The fire of the *Terrible* was remarkable for its precision and damaging effects. The *Carapoa* was also remarked for her excellent performance against batteries, which, however, continued to keep up a heavy fire in spite of the repeated broadsides of the *Terrible*, *Leonore*, *Sidon*, and others of our steam frigates, as well as some of the French.

At half-past 12 o'clock the line-of-battle ships weighed, and proceeded to take up their stations off Fort Kinburn, at 1,200 yards distance. I send you herewith a sketch, showing the positions of the fleets at 2 o'clock, when the line-of-battle ships were engaged, and when the bombardment was at its height.

At ten minutes past two the *Royal Albert* hoisted a flag of truce in answer to one hoisted on the Russian Fort, and made the signal "Cease firing." One English and one French boat were seen to leave the *Royal Albert* and *Montebello* simultaneously, and pull for the shore. On Lieutenant Lyons, the Flag-Lieutenant to the Commander in Chief, who had been sent with the flag of truce, landing at Fort Kinburn, he was met by a Russian officer, a Colonel of Artillery, who told him to be off, that they would have no truce and no terms, that they would never surrender but with their lives, and that the flag of truce had been hoisted on the Fort without his knowledge, and that he was Commandant of the Fort. The boats on receiving this answer were about to push off and return, when they observed an officer signalling them from the ramparts. This officer turned out to be the Governor of the place, who had ordered the flag of truce to be hoisted. Then commenced a scene between the Governor and the Colonel of Artillery. The Colonel upbraided the Governor, whose breast was covered with medals and orders, with being a coward and no Russian, for yielding up the place. The Governor placed his hand on the hilt of his sword in a threatening attitude, and demanded of the Colonel, where the troops were to live in such a bombardment, that had laid everything in ruins within the garrison. "If you wish to commit suicide," he added, "sit down upon a cask of gunpowder and blow yourself up, but I will not needlessly sacrifice the lives of the soldiers intrusted to my care; I therefore surrender to a superior force." The surrender was unconditional, but the Admirals generously returned the officers their swords, in token of their esteem for the brave defence they had made against the bombardment; and truly their defence was heroic. The number of Russians killed and wounded is stated by themselves to be one hundred and seventy-six. The only casualties in the British fleet are two wounded in the *Princess Royal* and two in the *Arrow*. One of the French floating batteries was struck by 79 shot and shell as indicated by marks upon it, yet had only one killed and seventeen wounded, which I believe is nearly all the casualties in the French fleet.

I went on shore the next day, and a dreadful sight presented itself. Never was the destruction of a place more complete; the whole of the front of the stone fortification being literally knocked to pieces, and the entire fabric reduced by the fire of the shipping to a mass of rubbish. No doubt exists in the mind of any one who has seen the effects of the bombardment of this place, that Sebastopol might have been ours a year ago had Admiral Lyons been Commander-in-chief.

I noticed a party of French officers breakfasting in the open air, in the centre of the forts, and the shattered walls of falling houses, while the unburied corpses were lying within a few yards of them. On the morning of the 18th, the Russians on the Otchakow side, seeing the fate of Kinburn, blew up the fort; and they are now, while I am writing, busy getting up some of the guns from the ruins to higher ground in the rear, for the defence, I suppose, of the town.

The quantity of material we have captured is very considerable, nearly 100 guns and mortars, besides large quantities of small arms. The number of prisoners we took was 1,200.

The French gun-boats failed to force the passage into the Dnieper bay, but ours succeeded.

The English Fleet consisted of 36 vessels, including line-of-battle ships, frigates, and gun and mortar boats.

Oct. 20.

An expedition started this morning under the command of Rear-Admiral Stewart, (who has his flag in the *Valorous*), consisting of gun-boats and steam-frigates, to reconnoitre the Bug River and the approaches to Nicolaijev. The French Rear-Admiral accompanies him in command of French gun-boats. The *Arrow* having burst her guns, does not go in this expedition.



[REMOVAL OF THE DEAD AND WOUNDED THE DAY AFTER THE ASSAULT ON THE MALAKHOFF.—(FROM A SKETCH BY JULIAN PORTCH.)

THE MALAKHOFF THE DAY AFTER THE ASSAULT.

THE above engraving forms the last of our series connected with the assault upon Sebastopol. It represents working parties of French troops carrying off their own dead and wounded, and the dead and wounded Russians, who fell in the terrible scene of slaughter that was enacted within the works of the world-renowned Malakhoff. Our artist, in the letter which accompanied this sketch, called our attention to the mass of earth

blocking up a portion of the ditch across which the advancing troops rushed to the assault. This earthen bridge, which rendered the use of scaling-ladders at this point unnecessary, was thrown into position by an explosion, which blew to pieces, at the same moment, a crowd of human beings. When the sketch was taken, the shattered limbs and bodies of these unfortunate men were still to be seen projecting out of the mass of earth that had buried them in its fall. A more painful and sickening

sight was perhaps never witnessed. Recent letters state that the Redan and Malakhoff are not by any means such favourite places of resort, now that the novelty of these scenes has passed away. The immense number of human bodies in various stages of decomposition, that, thrust only a few inches beneath the surface, crowded these works in every direction, rendered the air, for a considerable distance, very offensive in its nature.



THE NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—(SEE PAGE 350.)



REVIEW OF THE STIRLING AND CLACKMANNAN MILITIA



OPENING OF THE COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' SCHOLS, AT PINNER.—ARRIVAL OF PRINCE ALBERT.

THE NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

NEWCASTLE, whether considered in regard to its ancient history, as the scene of battles and sieges and the capital of the martial and renowned county of Northumberland, or in regard to its modern importance, as the seat of commerce, manufactures, and mineral wealth, and the birthplace of great men, among whom Lords Collingwood, Eldon, and Stowell may be mentioned, is certainly one of the most interesting towns in the north of England. In no respect, however, is it more remarkable, than for the architectural improvements which have been made in our own time; and not least worthy of notice in the town's progress are the new corporate buildings, of which the foundation-stone was recently laid with all due pomp and circumstance, and which are now being erected in St. Nicholas Square. The buildings, as designed by Messrs. Johnstone and Knowles, are to be erected by the Corporation, at an expense of £24,000, will occupy a space upwards of five hundred feet in length, and will afford facilities and accommodation for the transaction of various kinds of business. In the first place, the Corn Market will be appended to the edifice, although it will be re-built, enlarged, and improved; secondly, rooms will be appropriated for the meetings of the Town Council and the Tyne Commissioners, besides apartments for the officers of the Corporation to transact their business; thirdly, excellent and suitable accommodation will offer itself for all departments of her Majesty's Government, to enable them also to discharge their duties; and there are collateral advantages which these buildings will present, in affording amusement and oratorios on a large scale for the public. It is, moreover, intended to devote a portion of the building to their service, by appropriating proper rooms for occasional splendid reunions and musical entertainments. Beneath are excavated, in a masterly manner, cellars of immense extent, for the convenience of the public, and which will tend to keep up the ancient celebrity of Newcastle for port wine.

The buildings, when completed in accordance with the plans, of which we now give an engraving, will form part of a magnificent street, and prove a great ornament to the neighbourhood, and add, in no small degree, to the beauty and elegance of the town.

INSPECTION OF THE STIRLING AND CLACKMANNAN MILITIA.

ON Saturday week the Stirling and Clackmannan Militia was inspected in the King's Park, Stirling, by Major-General Lord Melville, K.C.B., in the presence of the Colonel, his Grace the Duke of Montrose, K.T., and many hundred spectators. His Lordship was received in line with open ranks, and the general salute followed; the men formed open columns and marched past, and the regiment was put through a great many evolutions by Lord Melville as well as by the Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Maitland, after which his Lordship expressed himself in terms of great satisfaction at the efficient state and discipline of the corps and the admirable manner in which they went through several most difficult evolutions.

After returning from the Park, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Maitland addressed a few spirited remarks to the men on the subject of volunteering. At the conclusion of his address, a loud cheer, whose echo may have reached Ben Lomond, was raised, and with one accord the entire regiment offered their services to the Queen in any part of the world, and on any duty to which she might be pleased to order them.

We trust that a regiment which has already given 45 per cent. of its own proper strength as volunteers to the army acting in the field against the enemy, will not be again broken up, but permitted to act as a second battalion to a regiment of the line. The counties of Stirling and Clackmannan may well feel proud of having given to the service of their country such a fine body of men, who have so nobly offered to take part in the war in which we are at present engaged. Not less are the thanks of the community due to Sir Alexander Maitland for the way in which he exercises his command. His soldier-like bearing and gentlemanly conduct have endeared him, and justly so, to the men of his regiment, and, should they be sent abroad, we are sure that the same good qualities which he has already displayed, will be more conspicuous when the regiment is called to perform other and more arduous duties. The regiment, which was embodied on the 1st of March of the present year, is now considered the most efficient in Scotland, owing probably to the exertions of the Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Maitland, who was formerly an officer in the 78th Highlanders, and to the energy of the adjutant, Captain Kenny, who for a long period was adjutant of one of our most distinguished regiments, the 60th Rifles.

At present, when all the Militia regiments in Scotland are embodied, it may be interesting to give a sketch of the history of their first formation, and the various changes that have taken place since their establishment.

The earliest establishment of a constitutional force in Scotland, of which we can find any notice, is in the Acts of Parliament of James I., which Acts enforce practice with the bow, the efficiency of which, as a warlike weapon in those days, had been dearly earned in the English wars. Periodical "wapschawings" are also directed to be held in various burghs four times in the year, at which each individual was to be "sufficiently armed and furnished," upon a scale proportioned to his property. James III. directed, in 1450, that the football and gol, then the national amusements, should be "cried down," and the bow marks be made in each parish, and all between the ages of 12 and 50 years should shoot. In an Act passed during the reign of James V., it was ordered that of all captains, one or more be chosen in like parish by the Sheriff and Bailie, with the advice of the most able in the shire, to muster their companies twice each month, during May, June, and July. In 1482, and during various rebellions, proclamations appear to have been issued, charging all Sheriffs and Magistrates to direct the attendants of the respective "wapschawings" to join the King's host; and the printed criminal records about this time, furnish us with many curious prosecutions for "abiding from" the various "raids," which appear to be generally settled by composition with the Lord Treasurer. In the seventeenth century, during the civil wars, levies and assessments were ordered by the district committees of war, and from these sources, it would appear the army of the Covenanters was formed. In 1662, Parliament made an offer of 20,000 foot, and 2,000 horse for his Majesty's sole disposal, armed and furnished with forty days' provisions, proportioned upon the shires, to march to any part of his Majesty's dominions, against foreign invasion, or internal insurrection. This is a similar principle to that upon which the Militia now serve, when not embodied for permanent duty. From this period, no Acts appear to have been passed relating to the Militia till 1797, when the system established in England was also extended to Scotland.

THE NEW LAW ON BILLS OF EXCHANGE.—The new act on Bills of Exchange has a retrospective operation on securities that have become due within six months. It is enacted that from and after the 24th October, all actions commenced within six months after the bill shall have become due and payable, may be by writ of summons affixed to the act. On filing an affidavit of personal service, or by proceeding in the mode pointed out by the Common Law Procedure Act, a plaintiff may proceed to final judgment for debt and costs with interest. Within a period of twelve days defendant can apply to a judge at chambers for leave to appear, and leave can be granted on showing merits, on such terms as may be imposed. A judge may order a bill to be placed in the hands of an officer of the court. The expense of noting a dishonoured bill, and other expenses, can be recovered. One summons may be issued against all parties to a bill. The act is to apply to the Courts of Common Pleas of Lancaster and Durham; and her Majesty may, by an order in council, direct the act to apply to all courts of record in England. The act is not to apply to Ireland or Scotland, and is to be cited as "The Summary Procedure on Bills of Exchange Act." The object of the new law is to prevent vexatious or frivolous defences to actions.

DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER only 6,763 persons left the Port of Liverpool for all foreign ports, against 14,371 in the same month last year: of the former number 5,278 have proceeded to the United States, and the remaining 1,485 to Australia.

THE COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' SCHOOLS.

ON Saturday last, the ceremony of formally opening the new Commercial Travellers' Schools, at Pinner, in Middlesex, caused unusual bustle and excitement in the locality.

The building—a handsome structure in the Elizabethan style of architecture, designed by Messrs. Lane and Ardish, for the accommodation of 300 children of both sexes, is of red brick, faced with stone, with a fine elevation, spacious terraces, and lofty trees in abundance, enclosed within its own grounds.

The weather was delightful, and the ceremony attracted an immense number of persons from Harrow and the surrounding neighbourhood. The royal standard and union jacks floated from the top of the building, and everything was done to give *clat* to the inauguration.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by General Grey and Col. Seymour, arrived soon after one o'clock, when he was met on his alighting from his carriage by the Lord Mayor, the chairman of the committee, the stewards, and the secretary. After receiving the gentlemen who awaited him in the reception room, his Royal Highness, preceded by the Lord Mayor, the chairman, vice-chairman, trustees, and vice-presidents, proceeded to the great hall, where the band of the Coldstream Guards saluted him with the National Anthem. The children and choir then sang the Hundredth Psalm; and the chairman of the board of management, after some remarks of a complimentary nature, said—

"It may not be displeasing to your Royal Highness to hear a few brief particulars respecting the institution with which, by your gracious act of this day, your Royal Highness is so kindly identified.

"Under the appellation of commercial travellers, there is in this country a large and important class of persons whose business it is constantly to travel for commercial purposes, and by whose exertions the internal commerce of this country is principally sustained. It was deemed fitting that an asylum should be established for the distressed orphan children of this large body of individuals, so peculiarly exposed, by the nature of their calling, to accident and danger. Deeply impressed with this feeling, a few energetic commercial men commenced this society in 1845. Before they appealed for assistance, either to principals or to the public, they manifested the earnestness and sincerity of their convictions by raising amongst themselves, and in their own body, £2,000 towards the prosecution of the object they had in view, and the work thus commenced has, with the Divine blessing, steadily progressed and prospered.

"In 1847, a large mansion was rented at Wanstead, into which 20 children were at first received. This number was gradually augmented, until at last it was found that the charity was fast outgrowing the dimensions of the premises in which it was located; and, after many expedients and much deliberation, it was resolved that the site on which this building now stands should be purchased, and an edifice expressly designed for the charity erected thereon. With great labour and anxiety, involving an outlay of upwards of £20,000, towards which between £5,000 and £6,000 have yet to be raised, this substantial building has been completed. To the cultivated taste of your Royal Highness, the edifice may present many architectural imperfections and defects; but the consideration that it has been erected to succour and educate the helpless will doubtless give it a charm in the estimation of your Royal Highness, which a greater architectural display might fail to excite.

"Between 200 and 300 young persons, from 7 to 15 years of age, have been or are now being carefully trained by this charity for a useful and honourable career in after life, who, but for this institution, might have been growing up in neglect and indolence, contracting vicious habits, and maturing in immorality. The board of management refer, with much gratification, to the fact, that so exemplary has been the conduct of the pupils of this institution, during the location of the establishment at Wanstead, that the clergy and gentry of the neighbourhood have expressed, in the strongest terms, their regret at the removal of the institution.

"It is true that this establishment, from its very nature, can never be distinguished in the higher branches of education and learning; still, it is hoped that, in all those qualities which constitute moral excellence, the scholars of this institution may vie in honourable rivalry with the noblest in the land; and, although this school may never, like a neighbouring seat of learning, send forth poets, philosophers, and statesmen, to give lustre to their age and country, and to aid in the councils of their Sovereign, it will produce, it is hoped, a succession of those hardy sons of commerce, equally essential to the existence of a commercial nation, and who, by their loyalty to the monarch, their reverence for the laws, and their industry and integrity, shall contribute to the stability of the throne and the material welfare of the empire.

"May your Royal Highness ever have occasion to look back with satisfaction on the part you have condescended to take in the proceedings of this day. May you long live to exercise your beneficent influence as the patron of every institution which has for its object the mitigation of human woe, and as the promoter of every work calculated to advance the welfare of the people.

"May your august consort, our beloved Queen, long be spared to hold her virtuous and benign sway over this mighty empire, and may the present circumstances of the times, as well as the future events of her reign, be overruled by an all-wise and all-merciful Providence, to her Majesty's personal welfare, and to the permanent security and prosperity of her dominions."

Prince ALBERT then replied as follows:—

"Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—Accept my best thanks for your address, and for the very gratifying expressions of your loyal and affectionate attachment to the Queen and her family. I have had much satisfaction in marking by my presence on this occasion the interest felt by the Queen as well as by myself in everything affecting the welfare and happiness of any class of her subjects, and most sincerely do I congratulate you on the success which has so far rewarded your spirited and praiseworthy efforts to secure an asylum for the orphan children of members of your body. Nor can I doubt that the most sanguine expectations of those who anticipate from the increased means of accommodation which has now been provided, a corresponding increase of benefit will be realised."

His Royal Highness having declared the building opened, the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, the Principal of the Harrow School, offered up a prayer, after which the children, accompanied by the choir and band, sang the National Anthem in very good style. The young ladies who were provided with purses as offerings for the charity next passed up the central avenue, and deposited them on a table before the Prince, who acknowledged each donation with a smile and slight bow, which sent the fair donors back to their places with heightened colour and fluttering hearts. The young gentlemen and the adults who were desirous of a recognition from the Prince, then followed, till a goodly collection of gay purses were piled on the table. The offerings of the stewards concluded this part of the ceremonial. "Partant pour La Syrie" was then sung by the children, accompanied, as before, by the choir and band. During this performance, his Royal Highness, accompanied by the stewards and the gentlemen who surrounded him on the dais, retired to a private apartment, where had been prepared a luncheon of the most *recherché* character, embellished by a fine centre piece, composed of dahlias and other flowers, forming a tasteful design in "red, white, and blue," which was surmounted by a gilt bust of her Majesty. Gilt *epergnes*, dressed with the choicest fruits, were distributed about the table, forming a *coup d'œil* at once inviting and elegant. After having partaken of this repast, his Royal Highness, accompanied by the committee of management, went over the building, and expressed himself much gratified by the admirable arrangements for the health and comfort of the children, assuring the committee that, as the head of the Wellington College, he had come to gain information from their experience, an object in which he had not been disappointed. Again cordially saluting the Lord Mayor and the gentlemen of the institution, the Prince, accompanied by his equerries-in-waiting, took leave, shortly after three o'clock, being greeted warmly by those assembled to witness his departure. Immediately after his Royal Highness had left, the visitors were admitted to the large dining hall of the institution, where a cold collation had also been provided. About 450 ladies and gentlemen sat down to this repast, the Lord Mayor occupying the chair.

Mr. George Moore, the treasurer, on his health being drunk, said he would briefly lay before them the facts connected with the Commercial Travellers' Schools. It was only as late as Christmas, 1845, that he had been called upon by a body of commercial travellers, 200 in number, to preside at the first meeting, held at the London Tavern, in connection with this institution; since that date great exertions had been made, but there still remained a certain amount of work to be done. The building in which they had passed so pleasant an hour together was a "great fact," but more money had been expended than they expected, and they were in debt, though he felt quite sure that no one could charge them with having laid out a single penny unwisely, for more regard had been shown for utility than ornament in the building. It was supposed that the new building would have cost £15,000; it had cost £20,000. They had entered into the contract for its erection when bricks, labour, and all building materials were high; that was the principal cause of this increase in cost; but it was not a fault with which they could be charged as managers.

With respect to the land, thanks to a gentleman in the room, Captain Huish, of the London and North Western Company, they had got it at the sum of £15,830, the interest of which amounted to £400. They had at that time in the institution only 150 children, but in December next they should elect as many more as the funds would allow. Eighty children had already left their schools, most of whom had been provided with stipendium by the kindness of different subscribers. He would take the opportunity of informing those present, that, as their schools would now accommodate 300 children, they were only limited in their sphere of usefulness by the want of increased means. He was happy to announce that 14 purses had been presented, containing £5 5s. each. The amount of the day's contributions from various sources, including £100 from Prince Albert, was very little short of £2,000. He hoped that the ladies would avail themselves of the opportunity of becoming governors of the institution, since they could do so by a payment of only £5 5s. He was sure it would be felt as a graceful expression of the opinion of Prince Albert, with respect to the value of their institution, when he informed them that the Prince had consented to become their patron.

We understand that Mr. Moore has been one of the most zealous supporters of this beneficent institution; and that one lady, Mrs. Cuddey, has at various times, from her own purse and collections among her friends, contributed to its funds the munificent sum of upwards of £2,000.

THE WRECK OF A FISHING SMACK AND LOSS OF LIFE AT RAMSGATE.

THE following letter, written under the excitement of the circumstances to which it refers, appeared in the "Times" of Monday last:—

"Sir,—A heavy gale is blowing from the south-west, and all Ramsgate is crowding on the pier. A small Colchester oyster-boat is on shore. Already all chance of saving it has gone, and the crowds are hastening to see the end."

"She is close in, within 50 yards of the outer wall of the pier, and there are four lives on board—precious, beyond words, to wives, or sisters, or children, but, amid all this hastening to see, there is nothing done to save."

"Is there no one in authority here to give orders in this emergency, and to see his orders obeyed? Not one. Is not Ramsgate Harbour called 'The Refuge of the Destitute,' and are there not life-boats, and Manby's apparatus, and what not, provided by the authorities? But where are they to-day?"

"One man is already lost, and the three survivors are now clinging precariously to the masthead, which alone, of all their little craft, is now visible to the eye. But the life-boat rides snugly within, and the life-boys, and the Manby's apparatus, and the paraphernalia of the 'Ramsgate Humane' (if there be such a thing) are—who knows where? And now a French gun-boat, which has been lying in the offing all night, is in great peril, and comes rolling in upon the surge, her screw broken, her rudder gone, and all unmanageable. And there she drives over the wreck of the little oyster-boat. And what shall save these three poor fellows, clinging for their life, from instant destruction? Thank God! the gun-boat just shaves them; and one fine fellow, with that energy which love of life lends, spring from his frail perch and just hits the bulwarks of the Frenchman, and is safe."

"But two still hang on. And every wave is lessening their chance of life. The craft is rapidly breaking up, and soon the mast must fall. Crowds of paying fellow-men are looking on—but with no one save? At last, there is the life-boat. Good and precious minutes have been wasted, it is true; but surely, now, this life-saving crew will do their duty, and go in boldly and promptly to the rescue. No such thing. They hang back. They delay. This is not right, and that is not right; and when, at length, they reach the wreck it is the time of the last struggle of failing strength. One man is fresher than his fellow, and, catching the rope first, is hauled up through the angry surge, and his rescue is secured. But the other poor fellow, benumbed and paralysed by long clinging, and too feeble to extricate himself from the meshes of the wreck, sinks with the life-boat at his side."

"Five minutes saved from delay would have been life. Another victim has gone down to an untimely grave—another victim to the want of management of those to whom the English people intrust their funds for the proper protection of human life."

"The French gun-boat is all safe. Her Government can pay for the tugboat which has just rescued her, and all is right."

"But will you ask the authorities at Ramsgate who is responsible for the disgraceful exhibition of to-day?—Your obedient servant."

"Ramsgate, Oct. 26."

"A LONDON CLERGYMAN."

MISS HINDS' DEATH.—HER LANDLORD TAKING HIS REVENGE.—Miss Hind, the victim of assassins in Cavan, expired on Tuesday week. Mr. Henry Grattan, a landlord of Miss Hind, has issued a notice to his tenants residing in the neighbourhood of the place where the murder was committed, to the following effect:—"Whereas, I have long since forgiven the tenants of those and other land rents due by them, amounting to £1,000, I hereby give them notice that I shall call for the arrears due these two years, to November next; and I shall insist on getting either the rent or the land; and as those people misunderstand the co-tenants of the Tenant League, I hereby call on the members of that body to use their influence and assist in enforcing the rights of property and the laws of the land, that in my instance, and that of this unfortunate lady, have been in the most unjust and illegal manner wilfully, wickedly, and barbarously perverted and outraged." He has also offered a reward of £100 for the capture of the murderers. At the quarter sessions held at Ballycounill last week, Mr. P. M. Murphy, the Chairman, said, with reference to this case, "But if, indeed, the fears of many should prove to be true, and the dreadful crime is symptomatic of a return to those evil days to which I have adverted, then should I say, 'Woe betide this unhappy and devoted district.' Having had a long experience, both at the bar and on the bench, of the disastrous consequences springing from those illegal confederacies, I can speak with something like authority on this subject; and, therefore, I think it not out of place on this occasion to raise my warning voice, and to supplicate every man whom my words may reach, to consider deliberately the character, the objects, and consequences of the Ribbon conspiracy. Who that has a heart to feel, or a tongue to give his feelings utterance, will not join me in imploring all men to unite in crushing in the bud the reviving efforts of this hell-born confederacy."

EXPLOSION OF GAS AT THE BIRMINGHAM WORKHOUSE.

ON Tuesday morning a most alarming explosion of gas took place in the tramp-room of the workhouse, at Birmingham Heath, and which has been attended with serious injuries to sixteen unfortunate poor tramps, exclusive of lesser injuries to about fourteen others.

It appears that, on Monday night, about thirty men and boys, of various ages, in the tramp ward, had assembled for the night. The room is on the ground floor; about 60 feet in length, 16 feet in breadth, and 20 feet in height, well built of brick, and covered with tiles. Two guard-room beds ran the length of the ward on each side, and in the centre stood a gas stove for the purpose of heating the place, supplied by a pipe which ran under one of the beds out of the yard. Close to the stove, and through the boards of one of the beds, there was a small square door, for the convenience of turning on and off the gas. Early in the evening it was observed that some of the tramps had moved the stove about, for the purpose of trying to obtain a light, and one of the party observed that they would be all blown up if they continued stirring the stove. About four o'clock many of the tramps were awake with a most distressing sensation of suffocation, and they got up and made an alarm, which attracted the attention of Weare, the night watchman, and another, who instantly unlocked the door to let them out. The moment the door was opened, those who were able rushed into the yard, and many of them fell upon the ground powerless. Weare and his companion proceeded into the room, the former having his lantern in his hand, and he advanced to the small trap-door above mentioned, upon which a most awful explosion of gas took place, which blew the building to atoms, and the roof and walls came down with a fearful crash upon sixteen of the poor fellows who were inside. The shock was like that of an earthquake, and shook not only the workhouse, but many houses for a considerable distance from it, and the noise was heard at the distance of a mile. When the explosion took place, the Master obtained all the assistance he could in the house, and it was with the utmost difficulty the poor sufferers could be released from under the ruins; and when they were taken out, many of them were literally naked, the clothes, rugs, and even shoes, having been burned and torn from their bodies, and many of them presented a most frightful appearance. One poor fellow was blown up completely through the roof, and alighted, comparatively unhurt, in an adjoining field.

CHEAP BREAD DEMONSTRATION IN HYDE PARK.

On Sunday last another meeting was held to discuss the bread question. At two o'clock, five or six thousand persons had assembled, and rapidly increased, till, at four o'clock, the open space to the north of the Serpentine was filled with groups.

Between two and three o'clock Mr. M'Heath, secretary of the Working Men's Provision League, appeared upon the scene, accompanied by a respectable and benevolent-looking old gentleman, who was voted by acclamation to the chair. The secretary then read a manifesto, and made a speech; while Mr. Ernest Jones, who a few years ago obtained so unenviable a notoriety as a mis-representative of the people, was addressing another group on the subject of the law of primogeniture and the system of entail, and recommending the establishment of public granaries.

While these speeches were being delivered, several fights took place, clubs and sticks being freely used. Many persons were knocked down and trampled upon, and several women and young children were seriously injured.

One orator having remarked that Sir B. Hall was no doubt a good man, and much respected up to the time he brought into Parliament his new bill, which, having now passed the Legislature, every one was enabled to see was calculated to carry out nothing more nor less than class legislation, another cried out, "I know where Sir B. Hall lives; come with me, and I will show you what to do." In a moment a mob, probably 800 persons, followed this man towards South Street Gate, leading across Park Lane, when, to their astonishment, they espied two police constables on horseback, with cutlasses at their sides. This at once struck terror into their minds; but, the officers passing along quickly, the mob made for the mansion at the corner of the street, and would, no doubt, have riddled the place had the same officers not returned at a sharp trot.

It should, however, be stated, that Sir Benjamin did not reside in the house, and the police in the neighbourhood, though kept out of sight, would have been quite sufficient to quell any disturbance of such magnitude. The officers on horseback rode backward and forward, and eventually succeeded in clearing Park Lane and South Street of the populace, when two respectably-dressed men were seen near the Victoria Gate, and the mob at once made an onslaught upon them, for what cause could not be learned; but one thing is quite certain, that the parties commenced pelting the gentlemen, and shouting "Down with the spies!" and had it not been for a Police Sergeant, who protected the two at the moment stones and clods were being plentifully thrown about, they might have been killed.

The mob then started off in the direction of May-fair, and having reached Curzon Street, commenced smashing the windows. Another part of the crowd took South Street, and pelted a public-house, breaking one or two of the windows, and nearly killing a gentleman who was writing in the parlour. The destruction of property, however, was far more serious in the neighbourhood of May-fair, and would have been still greater had it not been for the timely arrival of the police.

Several persons were taken into custody, and by 8 o'clock the parks and streets assumed their usual appearance.

FIRES IN LONDON.—The London Fire Brigade and West of England engines were most actively engaged from Saturday night till Sunday morning in attending some rather destructive fires. The first happened at Mr. J. Barrow's, corn chandler, Bedford Row, Clapham Rise, which destroyed a building thirty feet long by fifteen feet wide; cause unknown. A second broke out at Mr. T. Buller's, Valentine and Orson Tavern, Long Lane, Bermondsey, caused by a spark from a candle. The third at Mr. Eden's, hop merchant, Sparrick's Row, Weston Street, Southwark; cause unknown. The fourth, at Mr. T. Milton's, 28, Virginia Row, Bethnal Green, cabinet-maker, which destroyed the workshop on the second floor. The fifth fire broke out on the extensive premises of Mr. R. Yeo, builder, Bellsize Road, Finchley Road, and destroyed the building stock and workshops, as well as the workmen's tools. A serious fire occurred at Messrs. Tophis and Son's, auctioneers, St. Paul's Churchyard. The fire was discovered by Sergeant Frimby, who succeeded in saving Mr. and Mrs. Venis and their son from suffocation. The fire was not extinguished until considerable damage was done. Cause unknown; insured in the Sun.

BURGLARY FRUSTRATED IN ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD.—On Monday morning, between the hours of two and three o'clock, a most determined burglary was frustrated at Messrs. Harrison and Chater's, ribbon and silk merchants, St. Paul's Churchyard. It appears that the burglars entered a new building at the corner of Carter Lane, took with them a ladder, passed over Messrs. Cook's premises, and let themselves down on Messrs. Harrison's, whose premises they entered from the roof. The burglars then proceeded into the warehouse, where they regaled themselves, and commenced packing up every available article. Fortunately it happened the porter slept in the warehouse, and was awake by the light, when he was confronted by three men. A desperate struggle commenced, during which time a number of heavy blows were given and received, and in an unequal contest. The unfortunate man was seized, carried to the top of the dwelling, and threatened that if he made the least noise they would tie his hands and drown him in the water tank. Escaping, however, from their hands, he ran down stairs and sprang his rattle, which instantly brought Sergeant Frimby and numerous other constables to the spot, who started off in pursuit of the burglars, but were unable to capture them. They left behind them all their housebreaking implements, rope ladders, &c.

THE 5TH OF NOVEMBER.—The trustees under the Act of Parliament for the Improvement of Great Tower Hill are taking the most decisive measures to prevent the great disorder which on the occasion of the 5th of November of previous years has occurred on Great Tower Hill, from the collection of persons discharging squibs, crackers, and other fireworks, contrary to law. They have given notice to all the inhabitants of that locality, "That no discharge of fireworks will be permitted within the inclosure, and all persons discharging fireworks within the said enclosure or on any other part of Great Tower Hill are hereby cautioned that they will be subject to such proceedings on the part of the police as the law directs."

THE COMPLETION OF THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—Sir Charles Barry proposes to enclose New Palace Yard, and to form a quadrangle, by buildings of a similar character to the rest, on its north and west sides, with a magnificent gateway at the north-western angle, for which purpose it will be necessary to remove the block of houses between New Palace Yard and Bridge Street; and in order to give effect to the whole mass of buildings at Westminster, including the Abbey and the new buildings, Sir Charles proposes to take down St. Margaret's Church, and to remove it to a spot on the other side of the road towards the new Victoria Street, close to Tothill Street.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY is again open to the public. We still have to regret the want of some general classification of the pictures, either according to schools, time, or quality. Venetian pictures monopolize the north wall of the great west room; but on the remaining spaces, Guido, Correggio, Sebastiano del Piombo, Francia, and Tintoretto jostle one another in a very strange manner. The great Sebastiano del Piombo has been lowered some six inches, and appears to be less sloped than formerly.

DEATH OF MR. LUCAS, M.P.—Mr. Lucas expired last week, at Staines, from which place the body was brought to the chapel of the Oratory at Brompton. On arrival, it was received by a procession of priests, in white surplices, and bearing lighted tapers. It was placed on a catafalque in front of the altar railings, and surrounded by six large candelabra, with lighted candles; six others, of larger dimensions, on pedestals covered with black cloth, stood on the floor, at some distance on either side of the coffin. The priests, ranged on both sides, chanted a portion of the service, and then retired. Low mass was performed in the chapel at ten o'clock on the morning of Saturday last; and the funeral afterwards took place in the cemetery at Earl's Court. Mr. Lucas, though member for an Irish county (Meath), and editor of an Irish paper ("The Tablet"), and a most devoted Roman Catholic, was a native of Westminster, the son of a member of the Society of Friends, and the brother-in-law of Mr. John Bright.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

TOTNESS.—Mr. Mackenzie has, it appears, withdrawn from the contest at Totness, and left the field open to Lord Gifford, nominee of the Duke of Somerset.

WELLS.—Captain Jolliffe, a Conservative, and Mr. Serjeant Kinglake, a Liberal, are candidates for the representation of Wells.

MEATH.—Mr. Meredith, a relative of Sir William Somerville, is mentioned as about to come forward at Meath, on the Liberal interest.

SOUTHWARK.—At Southwark, a spirited electioneering contest is being carried on, between Sir Charles Napier and Mr. Scovell, much, we hear, to the satisfaction of the brave and gallant Admiral's supporters.

LONDON AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

(Continued from No. 21.)

IX.

THE BENEFACTORS OF THEIR SPECIES.

THE walls of the Palace of Industry are adorned with the names of those men who have principally contributed to the advancement of art and science. Among the most distinguished we observed those of ABAILARD, who discovered Hiclose.

CUVIER, inventor of the megatherium.

CAPTAIN COOK, the eating of whose remains between slices of bread and butter, led to the invention of the sandwich by the natives of those islands from which that popular refreshment has derived its name.

COPERNICUS, who sent his "system of astronomy" to the printer's, and died immediately afterwards—thus inventing a very simple means of avoiding the labour of correcting proofs.

MONTHYON, who invented the prize for virtue, in the hope of ultimately discovering the article itself.

PARMENTIER, who discovered the potatoe.

Among those who have increased our familiarity with objects of beauty, we may mention—

ADMIRAL DUMONT, who introduced the Venus of Milo into France.

JENNER, who introduced vaccination.

We also noticed the names of—

PASCAL, the author of the *Pensées*, who invented the barrow.

BARREAU, who invented a powerful system of turning; and,

TOURNEFORT, who invented nothing at all.

X.

THE MOST POPULAR BOOK IN PARIS.

If M. Guizot had been dead, and, moreover, an Imperialist—two decided disadvantages—his name would, doubtless, have appeared outside the Palace of Industry, as the inventor of "Love in the married state."

After the *carte* at the restaurant, the most popular book in Paris is certainly M. Guizot's *L'Amour dans le Mariage*.

The success of the work is due to the fact, that all the wives who have visited the Paris Exhibition have presented their husbands with copies of the interesting production, in the hope of converting them to the principles which it enunciates. The Parisians themselves have, moreover, been charmed with the originality of the title, and the exquisite fancifulness of looking for love in the marriage state; where they would no more have expected to find it, than honey in an acorn, or claret in a well.

The success which M. Guizot, the cold doctrinaire of constitutional France, has obtained in treating affairs of the heart, has set several of our most respectable politicians and philosophers to work upon the same subject, and in a few weeks our readers may expect to see the following new books announced:—

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT. By Sir Charles Wood.

THE HEART'S MISGIVINGS. By Lord Brougham.

THE PRETTY GIRLS OF LONDON. By Thomas Babington Macaulay.

THE DICTIONARY OF LOVE, WITH MAPS OF PAPHOS, CYTHEREA, AND THE PAYS DU TENDRE. By Mr. McCulloch.

WHAT IS A POUND? WITH REFLEXIONS ON THE PRICE OF AUTUMN BONNETS, AND HINTS FOR THEIR REDUCTION. By James Wilson (of the "Economist").

ADVENTURES OF A GENTLEMAN IN SEARCH OF A PRETTY GIRL, BY ONE WHO HAS NEARLY WORRIED HIMSELF TO DEATH. By the Chevalier Bunsen.

XI.

THE FOUR-SOU DAYS.

On Sundays, the public are admitted to the Exhibition for four sous. Although, according to the statistical reports and our own personal observation, the building is crowded on these occasions, we have found it almost impossible to discover a person who would confess that he had ever dreamt of entering the place on a four-sou day.

Sometimes two acquaintances meet in the building on a four-sou day, in which case it is usual for them to pretend not to see one another.

A writer, who professes to write from actual impressions, has an excuse for going anywhere (and, indeed, for doing anything), and, accordingly, we never made any secret of having been to the Exhibition on the four-sou days. During these visits we have frequently met friends, who, in the hope of not being recognised, rushed frantically towards the *annexe* which contains the machines, and where it was not likely we should follow them.

When, however, they were perfectly certain of having been recognised, they usually muttered an excuse to the effect that they wished to see whether the "people" had any feeling for art.

One or two, who preferred being thought vicious rather than philosophical, and anything rather than economical, pretended they had an "appointment;" at the same time condemning their own thoughtlessness for not having remembered what day it was.

XII.

THE FIVE-FRANC DAYS.

THE Exhibition is not exactly crowded on the two-franc days. At the beginning of the season, however, the price of admission during one day in the week was five francs, when the Palace of Industry combined the attractions of a bazaar with the solitude of a desert.

The following statement respecting the number of persons visiting the Exhibition, on one of the five-franc days, was originally drawn up for the benefit of the International Statistical Society, at present sitting in Paris. We make no apology for re-producing it.

The doors of the Exhibition were opened, as usual, at 10 a.m. Up to half-past twelve no visitor had appeared.

At about one an Englishman presented himself at the entrance to the Exhibition of Fine Arts, and boldly laid down his five francs. A special courier conveyed the intelligence to the Bourse. The shares of the Palace of Industry instantly went up 50 centimes.

The prices of shares were fluctuating, when, fortunately, about three o'clock, the news arrived that a visitor had also made his appearance at the Exhibition of the Products of Industry. Between three and four there was a crowd of at least four or five persons in the transept.

At half-past four an explosion was heard in the Exhibition of the Fine Arts. The sound seemed to have proceeded from the room in which Sir George Hayter's pictures are exhibited; and an official, arriving in the apartment in question, found the English visitor lying on the floor bathed in his blood. In one of his hands was a pistol; in the other a letter, the contents of which were as follow:—

"What Hayter paints and *feuilletonists* approve, cannot be good."

"I have long been on the search for a solitary locality in which to terminate my career. Paris, however, has been so crowded that hitherto it has been impossible for me to find what I so much desired. At last, it struck me that the Exhibition of Fine Arts, on one of the five-franc days, would be a suitable place for the execution of my design. Accuse no one of my death. Life has, perhaps, been rendered less attractive even than it was before, by some of the common-place and theatrical productions which I see before me. Painting should be a consolation, not a terror. But no matter. I acquit him, and may posterity acquit him also of any murderous intention. I die happy; for in dying I can see nothing to make me regret life. On the contrary—but it is of no consequence. Good-bye, whoever you are—and speak of a man as you find him."

The following is the list of visitors to the Exhibition during the entire day:—

PRODUCT OF INDUSTRY.

Women, 2; Men, 3; Children, 1; Total, 6.

FINE ARTS.

Two visitors—one of whom was a critic of painting, the other a corpse.

* Apparently in allusion to the praise bestowed by some of the French minor critics on the pictures of Sir George Hayter.

XIII.

WHAT JONES LIKED BEST AT THE EXHIBITION.

HE was observed wandering about the place, evidently in search of something which interested him deeply.

"Où est il, où est il?" he exclaimed eagerly to one of the officials.

The official whispered something in his ear, and pointed to a building close to the southern entrance.

"Non, non!" he replied angrily.

"What does Monsieur desire to see? The Crown diamonds?"

"Non, non!"

"The Sevres china?"

"Non, non!"

"The Beauvais tapestry?"

"Non, non, non! I want to see the refreshment room."

XIV.

THE BUFFET.

For some time it was imagined that the refreshments offered for sale at the buffet, were works of art which through some neglect had been omitted from the wax-work and *papier mâché* department, and which of course were not intended for human consumption. The error was discovered in the following manner:—

An Englishman who had undertaken to show a young lady the sights of Paris—and who is still alive—arrived with her in due time at the buffet of the Palais de l'Industrie. Pointing to a pretty-looking plate of peaches, he playfully requested her to try one of them. Another instant, and the young lady's six foremost pearls had met in the bosom of the fruit.

The gentleman had to pay three francs for his intended joke; but the great problem of the edibility of the articles exhibited at the buffet had been solved.

That very afternoon, M. Chevet, who had been unaware of the error, which, if not exposed in time by the courage of one of our own countrywomen, might have driven the visitors to starvation, and himself to bankruptcy—caused cards to be hung over the counter, bearing the following inscriptions:—

"Ceci est véritable.

This is real.

Questo è vero.

Dieser ist wahr."

The public at first ate timidly, like Angora cats who are being fed for the first time with pastry; but in a few days, the buffet, thanks to the undeniable merits of its refreshments, had become the most attractive department of the Exhibition.

The cards testifying to the reality of the provisions have since been removed.

(To be continued.)

MEYERBEER, of whose ovation at the Italian Opera we gave an illustration (No. IX.), is expected at Vienna on the 10th inst., where he is to direct in person the rehearsals of the "Etoile du Nord," which will be performed in the Austrian capital for the first time on the fête day of the Empress.

BLESSING OF THE FLAGS USED AT THE CAPTURE OF THE MALAKHOFF.

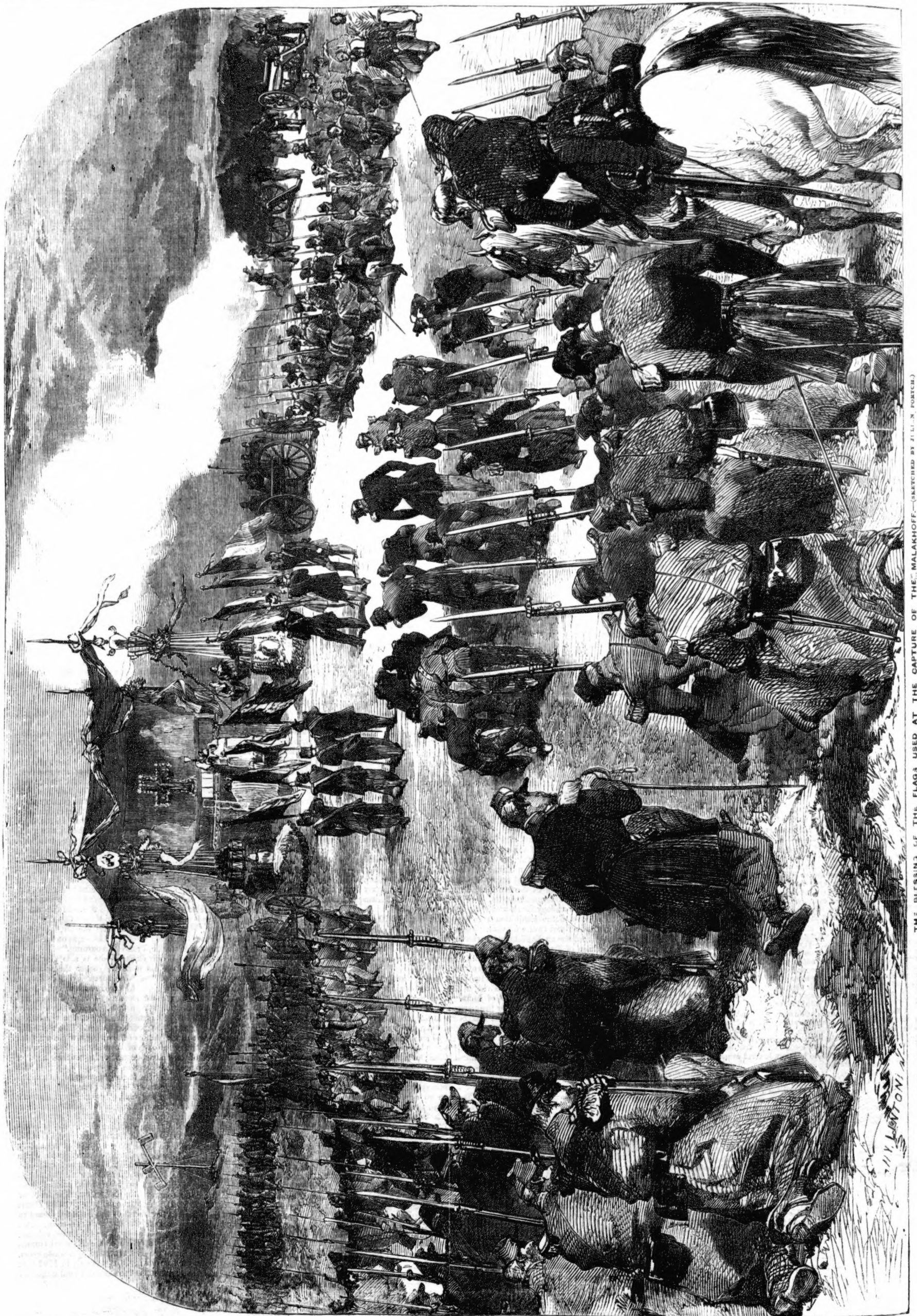
ON Sunday morning, September 16th, the division of the French army engaged in the capture of the Malakhoff, marched from their quarters at seven o'clock precisely, when they ascended the hill which overlooks the Inkermann Valley, with Balacava lying to the right of the Woronzow road. The spot they halted at was close to General Bosquet's headquarters, and was known as "l'Etoile de Bosquet," from a light fixed there, which at night time was visible from all parts of the camp. Here a handsome altar was erected, on which was placed the sacred Cross. Suspended over it was a canopy, supported by gabions, muskets, drums, and other warlike trophies, with flags fancifully entwined around them. The officiating priest, who was attired in full canonicals, was assisted by a couple of his brethren, one of whom stood on each side of the sacred pile.

Right and left of the altar a body of choristers took up their positions, and by them Mass was chanted forth, the military bands keeping time with the loud chorus of human voices. At the moment of the raising of the Host all the soldiers fell forward on one knee—the cannon thundered forth; and it was looked upon, by those present, as a happy omen that the smoke from these engines of warfare, blown back by the early morning breeze, enveloped the altars and flags in its cloudy embrace.

During the ceremony the flags were held by their respective ensigns, directly in front of the altar—those identical flags that, eight days previously, amid a storm of shot and shell, had been proudly waved above the conquered Malakhoff. And who that looked upon the scene but glowed with emotion at the sight? Need we be surprised that they did so? For, to quote the words of a French military writer, who throws his whole heart into his theme,— "The colours are the village bells; they shelter the regiment. Men live and die under their shade. Within their glorious folds is wrapped the honour of the corps—the honour of France. They bear aloft the luminous point where all eyes meet. They recall family and country when both are far away—they are the relics of the regiment. To abandon these colours, would be more than shame and cowardice—it would be sacrilege. Generations of soldiers have passed under the colours of the regiment, and have piously bequeathed them to one another as part of the national honour."

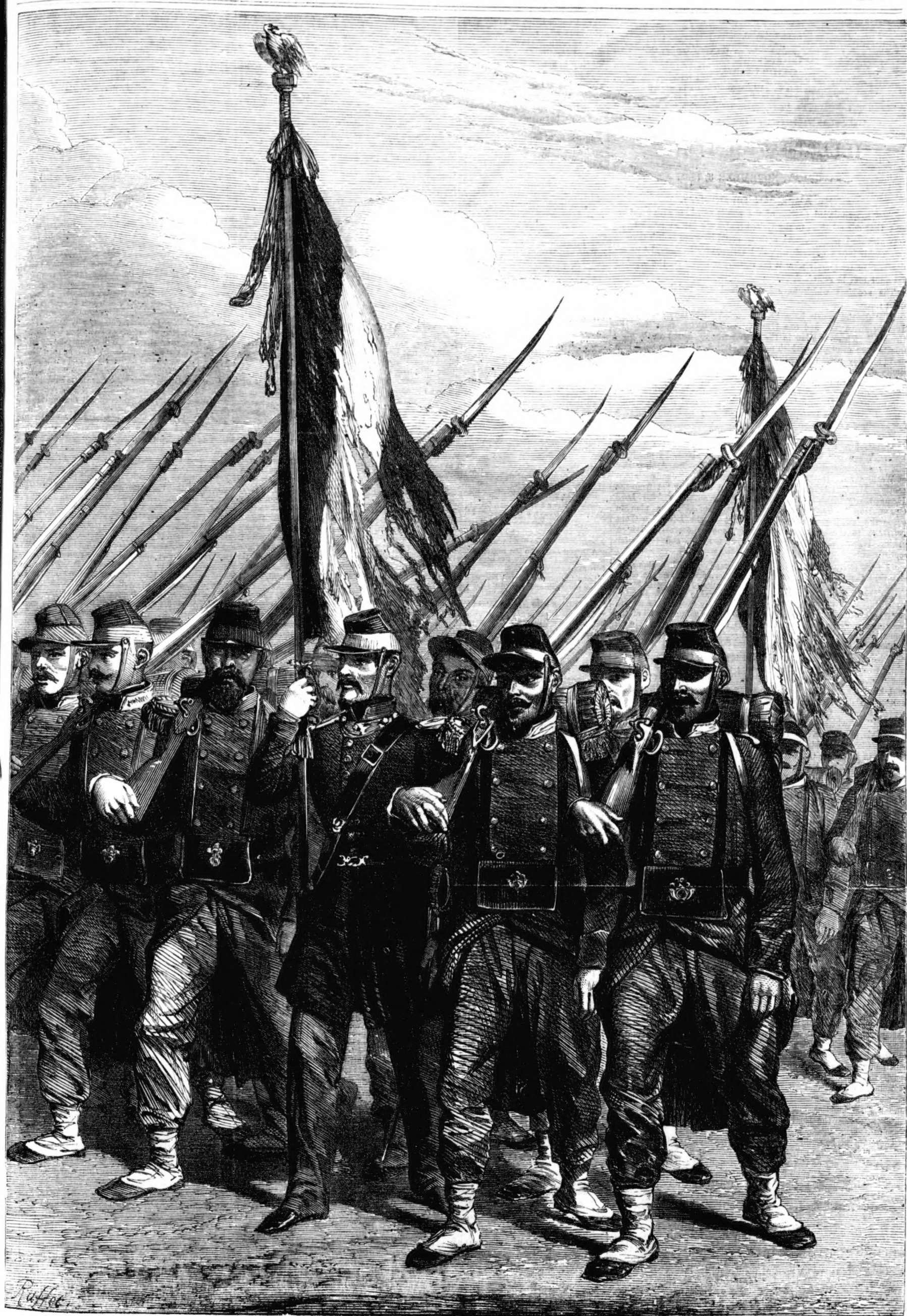
All this is but prejudice," said a philosopher; "I see only a pole draped with silk, and bright with gilding." But beware how you teach such blasphemies to the simple sailor, who, upon the mountainous waves of the ocean, in the midst of shot and shell, clinging to the mast of the sinking ship, embraces the sacred flag of his country, two thousand leagues away from France. Beware how you teach such blasphemies to the mutilated soldier, who, covered with blood, wraps himself in his flag, and dies rather than see it fall into the hands of the enemy. The history of this flag is the history of France. When, high and proud, it beats the air, France is great; when it stoops, France trembles; when it is hidden, as on the banks of the Loire, on the morrow of Waterloo, France is mourning."

The writer we have quoted is not only eloquent—he is also practically familiar with his subject, and from his work we gather the following particulars respecting the origin of the flags borne by the French army. "The white flag which was given to the French army in 1814, is not," he tells us, "the flag of the old monarchy—since the old monarchy had no flag common to all its regiments. Again, the tri-color raised by the National Guards in 1789 is not the flag of the revolution, but that of Henri IV., the head of the Bourbon House. The white flag of the Bourbons had its origin in the custom of showing a white scarf for a truce, or of hoisting a white flag in token of submission. It afterwards became the distinctive mark of the colonel-generals. It was their scarf of knighthood suspended to a lance. By degrees all colonels usurped this distinction. Military writers have testified to the jealous care with which colonel-generals guarded their prerogative of carrying the white flag. It was only when Louis XIV. abandoned the rank of colonel-general (being jealous of the immense authority of these officers), in 1661, and transferred the prerogatives of the grade to the Crown, that the white flag became, not the national colour, but the royal pennon—the flag of the only colonel-general, the chief, the king! An ordonnance, bearing date May 12, 1696, ordered that the white flag should be borne only by the Guards on duty near the King or Dauphin. But, by degrees, every colonel found a white flag among the colours of his regiment, which became the *drapeau colonelle*. A regulation, dated the 1st of June, 1776, considered the white flag, not as a national ensign, but as representing the prerogative of the colonel; and another, dated 3rd of April, 1780, confirmed the distinction. The tri-color dates from the time of Charles VII. This tri-color was given by Henri IV. to the Dutch; but even the first flag raised by the National Guard in 1789 was white—even when the cockade was bi-color or tri-color. But every province took up a distinct flag—some took the old Dutch colours. In 1831 Louis Philippe, while passing a review of the National Guards of Rouen, was surprised to see a strange flag traversed by a white cross. He was informed that this was the flag of 1789. It was only in 1792 that the army had taken ensigns of three colours in the stead of its old standards which were burnt."



THE BLESSING OF THE FLAGS USED AT THE CAPTURE OF THE MALAKOFF.—(ETCHED BY J. L. N. FORTCH.)

J. L. N. FORTCH.



THE FLAG BURN IN PROCESSION.—(FROM A DRAWING BY RAFFET.)

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1855.

THE AMERICAN DIFFICULTY.

THE sober-minded portion of the public will hear with great regret that our relations to the United States are just at present in a very awkward position. As nothing could be more foolish than to run rashly into a quarrel with that nation, of all others, let us endeavour to see quietly what is the matter, and how far the mischief yet done may be remedied.

The accounts which have last arrived are to the following effect:—

The district courts have been occupied with the trial of one JOSEPH WAGNER, and one HERTZ, for "enlisting men for the Crimea." There is a law in the United States—based on the non-interference principle,—which provides, "that no person shall hire or retain any person to enlist or enter himself to go beyond the limits of the United States with intent to be enlisted as a soldier into the service of a foreign government." This law is clear enough, and its existence must have been perfectly well known to our ministers. Nevertheless, they violated it, and if the depositions of HERTZ be true, violated it, knowingly and wilfully, as a few specimens of his statement will show.

HERTZ, we presume, is a man whose profession is not distinctly described, but who seems well acquainted with matters of the kind. When our Foreign Legion was talked about, he put himself in communication with Mr. CRAMPTON, English Ambassador at Washington. In their very first interview [last January apparently], Mr. CRAMPTON "had not sufficient authority yet from the Home Government," but "expected early authority from Lord CLARENDON." They were then evidently concocting a plan to evade the law, if possible—to evade, that is, the letter—without reference to the spirit. In February, some progress had been made. HERTZ then saw Mr. CRAMPTON again, and the latter replied:—

"I have received a letter from Lord Clarendon, which contains the statement that the British Government has made arrangements to establish depôts at some place in Canada, on the frontier of the United States, in order to receive the men who may be procured in the United States. In pursuance of this information, I have sent my special messenger to the Governor-General of Canada, and to the Commanding General of the troops in Canada (whose name, I believe, is Roy), requesting them to designate the places where depôts may be established for the reception of persons who may be procured in the United States."

This was a considerable step in advance. Mr. CRAMPTON, meanwhile, was perfectly aware that enlisting men was contrary to law; but "who can prevent you from sending labourers to Canada?" said he. HERTZ soon began to want money, and to start difficulties, no doubt to enhance the value of his services. He observed to Mr. CRAMPTON, "The popular voice is against this matter;" to which the Ambassador's answer was, "Never mind about this popular voice. If a house in Liverpool falls, the whole United States tremble." A wise and discreet diplomatist, indeed, to talk in this style to an adventurer of the stamp of HERTZ!

Modern governments act as slowly in breaking laws as when they have laws in their favour, and the business did not proceed briskly. The next person who appears on the scene is a "Mr. Howe," who arrives at Philadelphia, sends for HERTZ—re-opens the business, and tells him—

"I am authorised by the Governor, Sir Gaspard Le Marchant, of Nova Scotia, who, in accordance with instructions from the English Government, is the only man who has control of the enlisting service for the Foreign Legion, and the special control over the depôt at Halifax, established for the men procured in the United States."

Mr. HOWE added—

"Mr. Crampton has given me your direction, and recommended you as a man in whom I can place full confidence."

HERTZ, after this, got affairs in train,—went to and fro between the States and Halifax,—and practised the unlawful occupation to which he has since pleaded guilty in the District Court of Philadelphia. The American lawyers reasonably enough hold that the law was broken—the Halifax provision notwithstanding—since an American has a right to go to Halifax to enlist: but no one has a right to engage him in the States to go for the purpose.

The case of WAGNER is not so fully given, but the Americans accuse our Government, in his case, of getting him the ablest counsel in New York for his defence.

So much for the outline of the facts. It is perfectly plain that our government acted unwisely and indiscreetly in breaking the laws of a friendly Power. The "Times" says, "Government has expressed its regret." This is, so far, satisfactory. If Mr. CRAMPTON had acted on his own inspiration, we should have counselled his recall, but he evidently played second fiddle to the Foreign Office at home. However, if the *amende honorable* has been made, what need of further unpleasantness? It is not an offence of England against America, but the imprudence of a particular ministry, which assuredly the English people are not prepared to pay the piper for.

There would be nothing serious in the position,—nothing beyond the healing power of a little tact and politeness—but for circumstances arising out of the Russian war, and of the internal state of America herself. A set of her public men have inflamed the mass against this country, and the power of uneducated mobs there is such as happily we can scarcely comprehend in this country. The same thing may be said of a section of her press—conducted by men who in England could be by no possibility attain beyond the status of sub-sub-editor of the Jersey "Rat." We are prepared to prove that enormous power is wielded through journals there, by men whose own countrymen despise their abilities and loathe their characters. These persons it is who are dangerous in this crisis—men who have talked for years of the "exquisite luxury" of "drub-

bing BULL," and who would like (by way of adding to their own importance) to lead their countrymen to attempt that operation. Why should BULL be drubbed? BULL is by nature a quiet fellow. He buys and sells with JONATHAN on an enormous scale, to the gain of both. He supplies JONATHAN (very cheaply), with a literature of inestimable value, and he is joint heir with him of nearly all that is left of the personal freedom of the Gothic races. What madman or blockhead wishes to see these two individuals cutting each other's throats for the amusement of the ennuis of despotism? We know of no such scandalous spectacle as that would be since the Peloponnesian war ruined the kindred nations of Greece.

Let us have no bragging or blustering here about this discreditable business, in which our Government is clearly in the wrong. And if—as is not unlikely—a stupid diplomacy has exacerbated the grievance—let us insist on an opportunity of knowing our exact position by the honourable and ancient method of a parliament.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

MAJOR-GENERAL WINDHAM has taken the command of the Fourth Division, formerly under the orders of General Bentinck.

THE THIRTY-FOUR REFUGEES (including Victor Hugo and his sons) who signed the democratic manifesto, to which we referred in a previous number, have been ordered by the British Government to leave Jersey this week.

GENERAL WILLIAMS, the defender of Kars, according to report, has been raised to the dignity of a K.C.B., and the young Englishmen by whom he is surrounded and sustained, are also to receive signal marks of Royal favour.

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON has sent £10 to the Roebuck Testimonial Fund.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF MONTPENSIER have joined the ex-Queen of the French and the Duke and Duchess of Nemours at Genoa.

MAJOR-GENERAL FREETH, Quartermaster-General to the Forces, is, according to rumour, about to resign that appointment.

PAUL, STRAHAN, AND BATES, it is said, will appeal against the sentence passed upon them last Saturday.

PRINCE EDWARD OF SAXE-WEIMAR, the Count de Lavradio, and Sir Charles and Lady Wood, who have been guests at Windsor, took leave of her Majesty on Saturday last.

SMITH O'BRIEN, the Irish exile, has advertised a book on political subjects entitled "The Principles of Government, or Meditations in Exile."

M. THIERS has just completed his brilliant "History of the Consulate and the Empire."

THE DUCHESS OF BUCKLEUCH is said to have been received into the Roman Catholic Church by Dr. Manning.

MAJOR OWEN, R.E., who, during the siege of Sebastopol, lost his right leg in the trenches by a fragment of a shell, and who recently had the honour of staying two days on a visit to her Majesty at Windsor Castle, is on the eve of laying to the hymeneal altar Miss Cubitt, daughter of Sir Wm. Cubitt.

MR. MACAULAY, it is understood, will, at the next dissolution, retire from the representation of Edinburgh. Lord Melgund, son of the Earl of Minto, is expected to be a candidate.

GENERAL TODLEBEN has been entrusted with the defence of Nicolaeff.

THE CLIPPER SHIP *Eastern City*, of Glasgow, made the run from London to Calcutta in 76 days, being computed the quickest passage on record.

SEVENTY GENTLEMEN at Holbeach, the other day, treated themselves to a monster pie, composed of 10 rabbits, 24 pigeons, 6 partridges, 2 hares, and 22 pounds of beefsteaks and ham, "to commemorate the fall of Sebastopol."

A DUTCH JEW, who has represented himself in several European capitals as Prince Leon, of Armenia, has been arrested at Berlin for the assumption of a false name and designation.

LORD BROUGHAM has left London for Paris, on his way to his seat at Cannes, where the Noble and Learned Lord purposes to reside until the assembling of Parliament.

A FRENCH TATTERSALLS is about to be established in Paris, under the supervision of the Minister of Agriculture, and the system adopted at our own "Corner" is to be closely copied.

LORD J. RUSSELL, with an eye to popularity, has consented to deliver a lecture at Exeter Hall on the evening of Tuesday, Nov. 13, on the subject of "The obstacles which have retarded moral and intellectual progress."

MR. HEADLAM, M.P. for Newcastle, has been appointed to the vacant Commissionship of Charities.

GENERAL CANROBERT, it is rumoured in Paris, will shortly be appointed to a command; and it is added that a grand army is to be formed, to remain in France ready for any eventuality.

SIR HAMILTON SEYMOUR, it is reported, has been appointed English Ambassador at Vienna, in place of Lord Westmoreland.

MR. JOHN WORSEY, of Whitford Mill, Bromsgrove, was charged at the Bromsgrove Petty Sessions with having in his corn-mill 600lbs. of alum, for the purpose of being used in adulterating flour, and was fined £5 and £1 17s. 6d. costs.

A BLACK SWAN was captured last week on the Devonshire coast—driven, it is supposed, by a long succession of storms from the Pacific, its only known habitation.

THERE AL TO BE NO MORE EXHIBITIONS in the Grounds of the Horticultural Society at Chiswick.

A VALUABLE PICTURE of the Virgin and Child, by Guido, has been stolen from the side altar of the Church of San Bartolomeo, at Bologna, and the Papal Government advertise the loss by means of a photograph.

BORSCHINSKY, the recusant Bohemian monk, has succeeded in making his escape from the Convent at Prague, where he was confined, and is now located in Prussian Lusatia.

CARDINAL WISEMAN had the honour of being received, on Sunday last, by the Emperor of the French, at St. Cloud.

THE STEAM TRAFFIC between Glasgow and New York is about to be resumed, the splendid new steamship *Edinburgh*, one of a line of vessels, being advertised to sail on her first trip about the middle of December.

THE NEW MECHANICS' INSTITUTION at Manchester, which is to cost £22,000 will be completed by Midsummer, 1856.

A LETTER FROM HAMBURG of the 26th says, "Three English vessels keep constantly off Swaborg; no movement was observed there on the part of the Russian naval division, withdrawn behind the rocks of Helsingfors."

IT IS STATED BY A VIENNA CORRESPONDENT, that an interview lately took place at one of the northern towns of France, between the Emperor Napoleon, King Leopold, and Lord Palmerston.

DR. EASTON, surgeon in the navy, who was taken prisoner at Hango, arrived in Edinburgh, of which he is a native, last week.

THE KING OF SWEDEN has published an ordinance, including lead in pigs, or in any other form, among the category of articles considered as contraband of war.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION is drawing to a close, the Emperor having appointed the 15th of November for the distribution of the medals. The Crystal Palace Company are about to invite the exhibitors to transfer their goods to Sydenham, the Company paying all expenses of removal, and giving the space for display free of charge.

MR. W. D. GEDDES, M.A., has been appointed Professor of Greek in King's College, Aberdeen, on the promotion of Principal Campbell.

MR. G. V. BROOKE has been "starring it" at Sydney, and a new theatre has been prepared for his reception at Melbourne.

THE SPANISH DANCERS, with Mr. Buckstone, and Miss Reynolds, from the Haymarket, are performing at Edinburgh.

A RAILWAY SIGNAL-MAN, named Taylor, employed at the Haresfield station of the Bristol and Birmingham line, was, on the 18th ult., found lying dead upon the platform, under circumstances which lead to the suspicion of his having been murdered.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR DE LACY EVANS, M.P., is staying at the Pavilion Hotel, Folkestone; the gallant General's health appears much improved since his return from the seat of war.

MADAME LIND GOLDSCHMIDT has expressed her intention to visit London, for the purpose of giving a concert in aid of the Nightingale Fund.

THE NEW ORDINANCE, regulating the sale of meat in Paris, is giving considerable employment to the French Tribunals. Some of the butchers declined to sell meat of the commonest quality, on the plea that they had none of this quality left; others charged full price for bones. The Tribunals inflicted fines in every instance.

MR. JOHN LAIRD, the successful builder of the troop steamships *Resolute* and *Assistance*, is now building, at his Birkenhead and Liverpool yards, several wood gun-boats, of 240 tons each, and six or seven feet draught of water, the whole of which are to be finished by spring.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

FOURTEEN years' transportation certainly is a severe sentence, even for such flagrant delinquencies as those committed by Messrs. Strahan, Paul, and Bates. There was such a general impression, that, if they did not escape entirely with impunity, their punishment would be very trivial, that people, on reading the "Globe" of Saturday, seemed almost stunned at the announcement. I was not present on Saturday, but on Friday the Old Bailey Court presented a very curious aspect. Crammed from floor to ceiling with eager, inquisitive faces; with smart, curly-whiskered stock-brokers; with heavy-looking, black-clothed city merchants and bankers—men who wear white neckcloths and still carry their watches in their fobs, a sprinkling of such West-end men as have returned to town, and a legion of barristers both in wigs and mufti.

At the commencement of proceedings, there were few in the gallery, but in the afternoon the audience came pouring in, paying three and four shillings for their seats, the Sheriffs looking calmly on, and pretending that they could not put a stop to the robbery. The barristers fought like men for their places, the crowd reminding one of the Opera pit on a Jenny Lind night, or the struggle for tickets for the Brighton express. Little Mr. Lewis, of Ely Place, could scarcely push his way to whisper to Balandine and Parry, while great Mr. Chisholm Anstey was peremptorily refused admittance, the doorknobs being incredulous that any English barrister could wear such a fierce beard and moustache as that which he has assumed. (By the way, this gentleman, who, it will be recollected, a few years ago nightly annoyed the House of Commons by his long-winded, blatant attacks on Lord Palmerston, has been gracious enough to forget his enmity, and has accepted the Attorney-Generalship of Hong-Kong from the object of his *ci-devant* hatred.) The speeches were as good as the circumstances would allow—Thesiger's clever (he gave Baron Alderson a tremendous snub for interrupting him in his exordium), and James's very clever. It was fun to see the Old Bailey juniors watching these great guns deferentially, but at the same time evidently instituting comparisons between them and the everyday leaders of the Court, in which the latter by no means suffered. The sentence pronounced, the question now arises, Will it be strictly enforced? Will these three convicts actually be kept in prison, going through the usual labour of ordinary convicts, or will the face of Mr. Governor Hill be acted over again? Will a money-loving official be bribed by their wealth, or a credulous chaplain gulled by their feigned penitence? Finally, will they be treated during the period of their incarceration as would the commonest felons under the same sentence, and will the duration of imprisonment be the same for the faithless banker as for the midnight burglar? Unless the ordinary discipline is strictly maintained, the sentence has been in vain, and posterity will rue our clemency by further swindles and impostures!

Do you ever see the "Observer?" A delightful old paper, filled with twaddling politics, official news gathered from the hall-porters of the various Downing Street establishments, and long-winded accounts of those intensely interesting assemblies, the vestries of Marylebone and St. Pancras. It owes its entire circulation to the fact that it is the only respectable paper published on the Sunday morning; and content in its respectability, it carefully avoids any attempt at originality or talent. Sometime ago it boasted, in its advertisements, that the same gentleman had been "at the helm" for fifty years; and as, according to nautical law, no one is allowed to speak to the man at the helm, you may imagine his mind is in much the same state as it was fifty years ago. My attention has been drawn to this subject by a splendid bit of error in last week's number, where, among the candidates for Southwark, instead of Mr. Conynghame, of Brighton, is mentioned the name of Mr. Peter Cunningham! To any one who knows anything of the two men, and can appreciate the wondrous difference between them, this paragraph will indeed be "nuts." Fancy Peter Cunningham, the profound antiquarian, the learned editor and annotator of English classic poets, the biographer of Nell Gwynne, the kind-hearted friend, the pleasant *bon vivant*, the best combination of the scholar and the gentleman, giving up his literary pursuits to listen to county members' speeches, and his talents, which are public property, to the monopoly of Southwark! The "Observer" never made a finer blunder.

Perhaps one of the most deliberate acts of Vandalism ever perpetrated was committed last week, "under distinguished patronage." The plates of some of the finest engravings after Landseer, Leslie, and Salter, were deliberately destroyed, in the presence of a large number of persons, among whom were several of the principal print-sellers in London. One of these, Mr. Boys, was spokesman on the occasion, and calmly informed the bystanders that many patrons of the fine arts, noblemen and gentlemen, having given large prices—as much as ten, fifteen, or twenty guineas for engravings from these plates, it was thought simple justice to them to allow no more impressions to be sold at an incredibly low price, as had lately been the case; and a certain number of impressions having been secured for the monopolists, the plates have been broken up, and—the public could see the pieces! Now, sir, I submit that, in a country where the constant cry is for educating the masses, where we have a Government School of Design, with highly-paid, talented Professors and strongly-encouraged docile students (none of whom have done anything yet, by the way; but that, no doubt, is to come)—in a country where we rave about free trade, and where we boast that all useful and ornamental articles (bread, of course, included) are offered at the lowest remunerative prices,—I submit that the speech of this rank-and-money-worshipping print-seller was an insult to the public! I am a loyal subject, and should like to have Leslie's "Marriage of Queen Victoria" in my dining-room. I have a natural English love for horse-flesh, and should like to see Landseer's "Shoeing the Horse" hanging on my study walls, but I cannot afford ten, fifteen, or twenty guineas for either of these plates; and so, forsooth, Mr. Boys pronounces his fiat against me, and I must do without them. These gentry, led away by the success that has attended Lord Mayor Moon, are very grand in their notions, and fancy that they will all be made baronets—will all hear "Turn again, print-seller, Lord Mayor of London!" Spite, however, of Mr. Boys' grandiloquent speech, I have a notion that it was nothing more nor less than a puff-preliminary of the shoals of inferior impressions from these destroyed plates, which will, I anticipate, inundate the market when the demand for them is ingeniously worked up to fever height.

I think it is time to raise one's voice against a species of humbug which appears to be gaining ground. I mean the series of published questions and answers. The idea started under the title "Notes and Queries" was a happy one. It had been some time mooted before the appearance of the first few numbers, and the subjects chosen were of general interest, and admirably discussed. The interest, however, soon waned; subjects became exhausted within the first six months; and since that the most trivial nonsense has been admitted. A contemporary of yours is now following in the same track. My own opinion is that the querists and answerers simply take the trouble to a k and reply, in order that they may see in print their noble Christian and surnames which they always take care to write at full length. Two or three of them get up little tea-table reputations in this manner—"Charles Quackey," "Bolton Corney," "Mansfield Ingilby," and that wonderful Catubert Bede, who appears to write and draw for every newspaper and magazine (except the "Illustrated Times"), and yet has leisure to publish a new shilling book every week! *O canitas vanitatem!* Fancy being made happy by the sight of your name at the end of a newspaper article! Were any of these gentlemen in my place, what joy would be his? With what zest would he sign his name at the end of his article, knowing that it would stand the chance of counting its readers by hundreds of thousands.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MYSTIC, AND OTHER POEMS, BY PHILIP JAMES BAILEY.—SOMETHING MORE ABOUT "MACAULAY'S ENGLAND."

When I told you last week that Mr. Festus Bailey's new poem of "The Mystic" was before me, I spoke, in the language of the affidavits administered to witnesses, "the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." It was before me, but the very leaves were then uncut, and I had not even peered between them to look at the metre or the style. It has been done, Sir! the leaves have been cut, the type diligently perused, but I regret to state

without any satisfactory conclusion. I have read a tragedy by Mr. Howell, and listened to a literal translation of a French drama, replete with metaphors, by Mr. Benjamin Webster, and have managed to understand but I confess myself utterly vanquished by the "Mystic." I have tried to read, Sir, under the most various and favourable circumstances: in the rear of Cheapside, in the deserted haunts of Tyburnia (to ensure perfect solitude, I slipped the volume into my pocket, and went to Mr. Charles (they call him "Glances at Paris"); I have taken it when fasting; I have mooned over it, cigar in mouth; it has been my companion on the beach at Brighton, and in the railway-carriage returning thence, when four Stock-Exchange men played whist all the way up to town. And yet all this has been to no purpose! I can't understand it! Perhaps it is from my natural stupidity, or my want of education, or my ignorance of "unities," or "antiquities," or some other wonderful qualities which they used to talk about at that happily-defunct society, the "Syncretics," but, from whatever cause I know not, I can't understand it! You, Sir, are an Editor, omniscient, and can therefore easily comprehend this passage, informing us of the "Mystic's" daily food:

"As well the bruised thangeline, which gives
Prophetic sense, as juice of aglaophant,
That subjects to the eye the invisible world,
And from sweet herblet of immortal life
Sipped, till transmute he stood star-headed."

"Intimate, mystic, perfected, egypt,
Illuminate, adept, transcendent, he,
Joy-like, lived and died, and again lived,
Resuscitant."

He drinks water out of "withered fronds." He goes to sea in a "skiff of grisly marble." He dwells on "the circular mount of safety." He is taught by the "celestial serpent of the sun," and from this gentleman he learns his "solar syllables of fire, and the moon's mountain alphabet." He "gropes the concave," "in temple-like totality he holds his heart hypocritical." He sees "Time's last sands sift up the streams of soul." Indeed, he does so many wonderful things, and uses so many wonderful words, that I am obliged humbly to confess my ignorance both of his language and intentions, and turn to what I CAN understand, a little poem in the same volume, called a "Fairy Tale." There is a passage descriptive of the fairy king's palace, and the regret of the mortal child who has been inveigled into it, which appears to me worth all the dreamy mysticism ever written:

"From the centre of the high dome swung a topaz solar bright,
Which through all the palace darted gleams of glad and glorious light;
Emerald lamplights ranked around it, tempered this with cooler ray,
While, without, the welkin poured one pale and ever-dawning day
There the feast was flowing ever, stream-like music ceaseless played;
There the dance was ever heaving, minstrels chanting in the shade,
There, for aye, the chase was bounding over hill, and dale, and plain,
And fair Christine, on hoond-high steel, the foremost of the clan train
Still she saddened when she minded of the simple garlands she
Wove of wild-rose and of woodbine, with her playmate on the lea,
And the hazel and brown beech nut, which they gathered from the tree
What though clad in jewelled raiment, trilling, tripping, day and night—
What though plied with queenly dainties, what though culling gold-blossoms
bright—
Never, in the feast delicious, nor the dance's wildering whirl,
Nor the winecup's merry orbit, could forget that lovely girl
The ancient hall where dwelled her sire, and where, too, from her mother's
side,
She one summer's eve had stolen forth into the forest wide."

Let your readers judge between these two specimens of Mr. Bailey's muse!

The London correspondent of the "Liverpool Albion"—the romancist, *par excellence*, of the provincial press—treated the readers of that able journal, a week or two ago, to one of those absurd arithmetical computations such as the number of quarters of pounds of butter the sheets of the forthcoming volumes of Macaulay's "History of England" would suffice to wrap up, supposing that each sheet was capable of containing six separate quarters of pounds of the oleaginous compound. To make his very interesting discovery sufficiently startling, the writer was compelled grossly to exaggerate the number of copies subscribed for. These he modestly computed would reach 40,000, and a fortnight ago he stated, quite authoritatively, that the order for the provinces alone then amounted to 14,000 copies.

The "Athenæum," whose statements on all matters of fact are made with a caution that entitles them to the utmost respect, quietly threw a doubt on the "Liverpool Albion" story, and intimated that it had grounds for believing that 20,000 copies was the correct number subscribed for. Whereat the romancist aforesaid talked largely of his statement having been put forth on "something better than mere grounds for belief," though he very judiciously refrained from disclosing what this something better was. Your readers will remember, Sir, that I have given my version of this subscription. In fixing it at 13,000 copies, I spoke from the authority of the list itself; and I repeat that, ten days ago, 18,000 was the number really subscribed for in town, while the country orders did not amount to more than 5,000 copies. If the writer in the "Liverpool Albion" will take the trouble to address Messrs. Longman and Co. on the subject, he will learn from them the absurdity of the basis on which he built up his still more absurd conclusions.

Eighteen thousand copies of a 36s. work is a subscription to be indeed proud of, and one that does not need the gloss of exaggeration. Why, Sir, the Waverley Novels, in their palmiest days, never reached even half that number. No single edition exceeded 10,000 copies. When Messrs. Hatchard and Son subscribed for 175 copies of "Quentin Durward," the whole trade rung with the astounding intelligence; yet now-a-days I do not hear the slightest surprise expressed at Mr. Mudie's subscription for 2,750 copies of Macaulay's "England," Vols. III. and IV.: the days of surprises, like those of conquest, are indeed past.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

SADLER'S WELLS—PRINCESS'S—DRURY LANE—HAYMARKET.
ANDERSON'S LAST NEW TRICK AT THE LYCEUM.

GREAT activity has prevailed during the past week at the metropolitan theatres, two new plays having been produced and two old favourites revived. One of the novelties is from the pen of Mr. Selous, author of the "Templar," and has been brought out at Sadler's Wells, under the auspices of Mr. Phelps. It is called "Hamilton of Bothwellhaugh," and is founded upon the adventures of that wronged gentleman, who, being an adherent of Queen Mary, was persecuted by the Regent Murray, and deprived of his estates. His wife was turned into the open fields, with her new-born child, death to both being the consequence of the cruelty. Stung to madness by his misfortunes, Hamilton, from a window of an empty house, fires at Murray, who is passing in procession below, and kills him on the spot. These are the main features of the real story, but they are not at all held to by Mr. Selous, who has fashioned them for his own purpose, but to no good end apparently, as the play is intensely heavy and uninteresting, having but one "situation" throughout the long five acts. Mr. Phelps played with much rugged force and pathos, and so did Mr. Barrett, who, by the way, was the only person among the characters who used the Scotch dialect. I wonder Mr. Phelps does not see the absurdity of this. All in the play being natives of the same country, and about equal in rank, there should be no difference in their dialect. The illustration on the next page represents the closing scene of the drama.

At the Princess's, Mr. Frank Matthews has made his first appearance, choosing his favourite part of Crepin in "The Wonderful Woman," for his debut. He was warmly received, and acted admirably. The piece, altogether, was well played, Mr. David Fisher and Miss Heath being perhaps as good substitutes as can now-a-days be found for Mr. Charles Matthews and Madame Vestris, the originals of the characters now represented by them. "The Critic" has also been revived, with Mr. Frank Matthews as Sir Fretful Plagiary.

At Drury Lane, the other Mr. Matthews, the vivacious Charles, is acting in the "Critic," doubling Puff and Sir Fretful, as in the old Lyceum days. On Saturday night a new play was brought out at the Haymarket, called "The Beginning and the End," written by Mrs. Lovell, who translated

"Ingomar." To come calmly to the point, it is a very bad piece of the ultra raw-head-and-bloody-bones school, very shyly received by the audience on the first night, and only tolerated on account of Miss Cushman's acting.

The wizard Anderson is a clever fellow. I know that he considers Barrow a vulgar classic, and perhaps the neat way in which he hocuses the public mind entitles him to look with contempt on the Prince of Hunsdang's achievements. What do you think of Anderson's manoeuvre at his entertainment on Saturday last? No sooner was the verdict given in the case of Strahan, Paul, and Bates, and sentence pronounced upon them, than the particulars were conveyed to him by electric telegraph. He was in the midst of a spirit *seance*. To the spirits he at once appealed for information. In reply to the question as to whether the prisoners had been found guilty, the spirits answered in the affirmative by ringing a bell, and when, in answer to inquiries respecting their sentence, the spirits distinctly rapped out fourteen ominous knocks, everybody knew this meant fourteen years' transportation.

The audience were electrified. Anderson cleverly brought the exhibition to an instant close; and lo and behold! all down the Strand, long before the evening papers are published, people from the Lyceum are telling their friends, whom they meet, about the verdict and sentence in the case of Strahan, Paul, and Bates, which they affirm had been communicated to them at a spirit *seance* at which they were present during the morning at the Lyceum Theatre.

M. Jullien commences his winter campaign, at Covent Garden, on Monday next.

A VERY IMPRESSIVE WOMAN.

ALICE GREY, *alias* Alice Christie, *alias* Anastasia Huggard, was brought before the authorities of Wolverhampton, last week, under peculiar circumstances. She appeared at the Police-court on the 12th ult., and stated that while asking some lads the way to her lodgings, one of them snatched her purse, containing three sovereigns and five shillings, from her, while one of his companions laid hold of her arm to prevent her from pursuing the successful adventurer. She gave a description of the boys, and represented herself as being a stranger in the town; and, at the same time, spoke so modestly, and seemed so fresh from the country, that the Inspector, on finding where she had taken lodgings, told her to mention his name to the landlady, that she might take the greater interest in her and trust her the more readily. The boys supposed to have committed the assault were brought before the magistrates and committed for trial. Before the Bench the demeanour of the prosecutrix was so modest, her language so correct, and she also gave her evidence with such apparent ingenuousness, that, though her tale was uncorroborated by a single witness no one doubted its truth for a moment.

She appeared at the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions against the two boys, where the influence of her presence was as fatal to them as before the committing magistrates. They were found "Guilty," and each sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment; and the Clerk of the Court so far commiserated the apparent misfortunes of the very interesting prosecutrix, as to augment the amount coming to her to £12 10s. The tables, however, were to be shortly turned. While waiting at the station for a train to Wolverhampton, she was recognised as a young woman who, under the name of Alice Christie, had, on a previous day, charged a workman, at the Birmingham Police-court, with having stolen a box containing her clothes and about £5 in money, as she was leaving the station, where she had just arrived from Liverpool. The man satisfactorily established an *alibi*, and was discharged; but such an influence did she exercise upon the Court with her modest demeanour, specious story, and simple manner, that 15s. were immediately given her from the poor-box. She was lodged, for her protection, at the house of one of the constables, and the superintendent of the police procured a pass for her to Liverpool, where she said her friends resided. The result was that on her arrival in Wolverhampton she was detained at the police-station on a charge of perjury, on which charge she was next day remanded for a week by the magistrates.

In the meantime twenty dazzeretful pkenesses of the prisoner were taken and sent to different parts of the kingdom with the view of ascertaining her antecedents. The police at Liverpool identified in the likeness the features of a woman named Huggard, who, as far back as May, 1850, represented at the Police-station there that a man whom she had engaged to carry her box from the quay, where she had just arrived from Ireland, had stolen it; and that it contained, in addition to her wearing apparel, two Irish £1 notes. She went round the town with a policeman, and recognised a man and a woman, as the persons who had robbed her; and they were tried and convicted; the man being sentenced to nine and the woman to six months' imprisonment. There, too, she created such an impression that she was allowed sub-stenography between the committal and trial of the prisoners, and the barristers at the sessions made a collection to send her back to Ireland.

By means of the likeness and the assiduity of the Police authorities, information was received from different parts of the kingdom, sufficient to prove that she was among the most artful of her sex. Shortly after being received into the gaol at Stafford, she affected insanity, but the medical men who were called in, pronounced her madness to be feigned. On being brought up before the magistrates, last week, she still kept up the appearance, and from the sweet, modest, unassuming maiden, was transformed into a coarse, blearing creature, who shocked the Court with foul expressions.

Several witnesses were examined to show that at the time of the alleged robbery, the two boys accused were two miles from Wolverhampton. On being asked whether she had any questions to put, the prisoner gave an impertinent answer, accompanied by some foul expressions towards the magistrates. She was ultimately remanded for another week, and was conducted from Court showering filthy epithets on the Bench.

The "Leeds Mercury" has reason to believe that this young woman is the same who, about a year ago, made a considerable sensation, endeavouring to pass herself off as the niece of the Rev. Dr. Hook.

HIAWATHA'S WOOING.

FROM A FORTHCOMING POEM BY LONGFELLOW, ENTITLED THE
"SONG OF HIAWATHA."

At the doorway of his wigwam
Sat the ancient Arrow-maker,
In the land of the Dacotahs,
Making arrow-heads of jasper,
Arrow-heads of chalcodony.
At his side, in all her beauty,
Sat the lovely Minnehaha,
Sat his daughter, Laughing Water,
Plaiting mats of flags and rushes;
Of the past the old man's thoughts
were,
And the maiden's of the future.

He was thinking, as he sat there,
Of the days when with such arrows
He had struck the deer and bison,
On the Muskoday, the meadow;
Shot the wild goose, flying southward,
On the wing, the clamorous Wawa;
Thinking of the great war-parties,
How they came to buy his arrows,
Could not fight without his arrows.
Ah, no more such noble warriors
Could be found on earth as they
were!

Now the men were all like women,
Only used their tongues for weapons!

She was thinking of a hunter,
From another tribe and country,

Young and tall and very handsome,
Who one morning, in the Spring-
time,
Came to buy her father's arrows,
Sat and rested in the wigwam,
Lingered long about the doorway,
Looking back as he departed.
She had heard her father praise
him,
Praise his courage and his wisdom;
Would he come again for arrows
To the Falls of Minnehaha?
On the mat her hands lay idle,
And her eyes were very dreamy.

Through their thoughts they heard
a footstep,
Heard a rustling in the branches,
And with glowing cheek and fore-
head,

With the deer upon his shoulders,
Suddenly from out the woodlands
Hiawatha stood before them.

Straight the ancient Arrow-maker
Looked up gravely from his labour,
Laid aside the unfinished arrow,
Bade him enter at the doorway,
Saying, as he rose to meet him,
"Hiawatha, you are welcome!"

At the feet of Laughing Water,
Hiawatha laid his burden,
Threw the red deer from his shoulders;

And the maiden looked up at him,
Looked up from her mat of rushes,
Said with gentle look and accent,
"You are welcome, Hiawatha!"

Very spacious was the wigwam,
Made of deer-skin dressed and
whitened,

With the Gods of the Dacotahs
Drawn and painted on its curtains,
And so tall the doorway, hardly
Hiawatha stooped to enter,

Hardly touched his eagle-feathers
As he entered at the doorway.

Then uprose the Laughing Water,
From the ground fair Minnehaha,
Laid aside her mat unfinished,
Brought forth food and set before
them,

Water brought them from the brook-
let,
Gave them food in earthen vessels,
Gave them drink in bowls of bass-
wood,

Listened while the guest was speak-
ing,
Listened while her father answered,
But not once her lips she opened,
Not a single word she uttered.

Yes, as in a dream she listened
To the words of Hiawatha,
As he talked of old Nokomis,
Who had nursed him in his child-
hood,

As he told of his companions,
Chibiabos, the musician,
And the very strong man, Kwasind,
And of happiness and plenty
In the land of the Ojibways,
In the pleasant land and peaceful.

"After many years of warfare,
Many years of strife and bloodshed,
There is peace between the Ojibways
And the tribe of the Dacotahs,"
Thus continued Hiawatha,
And then added, speaking slowly,
"That this peace may last for ever,
And our hands be clasped more
closely,

And our hearts be more united,
Give me as my wife this maiden,
Minnehaha, Laughing Water,
Loveliest of Dacotah women!"

And the ancient Arrow-maker
Paused a moment ere he answered,
Smoked a little while in silence,
Looked at Hiawatha proudly,
Fondly looked at Laughing Water,
And made answer very gravely:

"Yes, if Minnehaha wishes,
Let your heart speak, Minnehaha!"

And the lovely Laughing Water
Seemed more lovely as she stood there,
Neither willing nor reluctant,
As she went to Hiawatha,
Softly took the seat beside him,
While she said, and blushed to say it,
"I will follow you, my husband!"

This was Hiawatha's wooing!
Thus it was he won the daughter
Of the ancient Arrow-maker,
In the land of the Dacotahs!

From the wigwam he departed,
Leading with him Laughing Water;
Hand in hand they went together,
Through the woodland and the mea-
dow,

Left the old man standing lonely
At the doorway of his wigwam,
Heard the Falls of Minnehaha
Calling to them from the distance,
Crying to them from afar off,
"Fare thee well, O Minnehaha!"

From the sky the sun benignant
Looked upon them through the
branches,
Saying to them, "O my children,
Love is sunshine, hate is shadow,
Life is chequered shade and sunshine,
Rule by love, O Hiawatha!"

From the sky the moon looked at
them,
Filled the lodge with mystic splen-
dours,
Whispered to them, "O my children,
Day is restless, night is quiet,
Man imperious, woman feeble;
Half is mine, although I follow;
Rule by patience, Laughing Water!"

Thus it was they journeyed home-
ward;
Thus it was that Hiawatha
To the lodge of old Nokomis
Brought the moonlight, starlight,
firelight,

Brought the sunshine of his people,
Minnehaha, Laughing Water,
Handsomest of all the women
In the land of the Dacotahs,
In the land of handsome women.

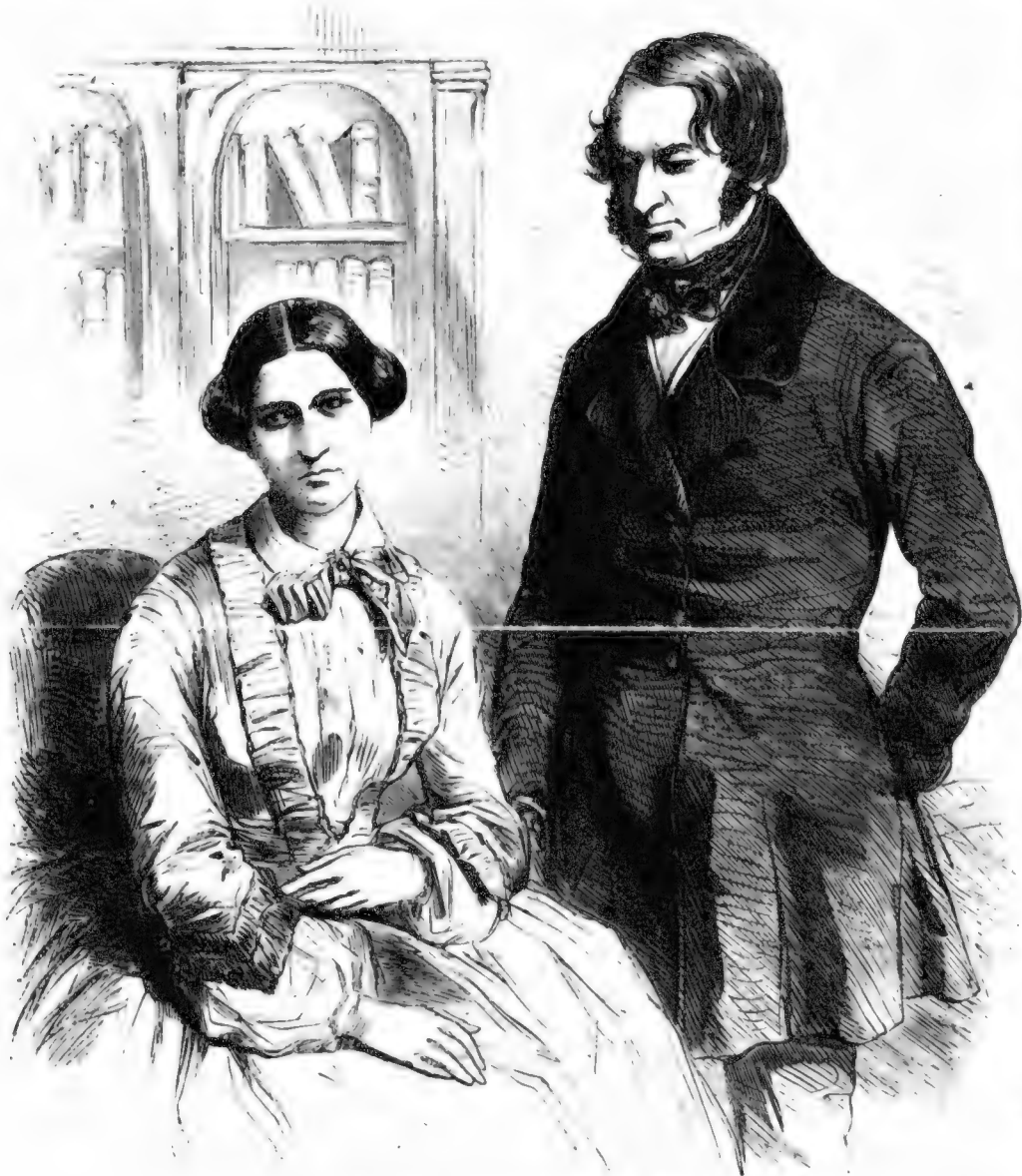
LONGFELLOW.

In an old American town, which the original settlers are said to have intended as the capital of Massachusetts, and which they dignified with the name of Cambridge, a school, erected and endowed at as early a period as the year 1636, has, in the course of time, grown into a college, known on the other side of the Atlantic as the Harvard University. Hard by this seat of learning, appears an antique and spacious edifice, standing upon the higher of two terraces, fronted by stately elms, and surrounded with grounds, adorned with trees, and shrubs, and flowers. This pleasant spot possesses a double interest in the eyes of visitors. In other days, the antique mansion was the head-quarters of the illustrious Washington, previous to the evacuation of Boston; and, in our own time, it is the residence of an accomplished poet,—deservedly popular with a multitude of English readers,—and who has thus recalled the past in the reminiscences suggested by the sight of the old oak-panels in his sumptuous study—

"Once, ah, once, within these walls
One whom memory oft recalls,
The Father of his Country, dwelt,
And yonder meadows broad and damp
The fires of the besieging camp
Encircled with a burning belt.
Up and down these echoing stairs,
Heavy with the weight of cares,
Sounded his majestic tread;
Yes, within this very room
Sat he in those hours of gloom,
Weary both in heart and head."

But, to leave the memory of Washington, and turn from the past to the present, the eve of the publication of a new poem from the gifted author of "Evangeline" and "The Golden Legend," seems a fitting occasion for presenting our readers with a portrait of the distinguished bard, and a sketch of his career.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was born on the 27th of February, 1807, at the city of Portland, in Maine, and entered, when fourteen years of age, at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, where, at the end of four years, he took his degree, with high honours. Mr. Longfellow, who while yet an undergraduate had written many tasteful and carefully finished poems for and "United States Literary Gazette," was destined to the legal profession, the



THE POET LONGFELLOW AND HIS WIFE

or some months during 1825, was occupied as a student of law in his father's office. The embryo poet, however, appears to have found the pursuit uncongenial; and embracing the idea of a professorship of modern languages in Bowdoin College, he prepared for the discharge of his new duties by a long visit to Europe. Having passed some three or four years in France, Spain, Germany, Italy, and Holland, he returned, in 1829, to America, and entered forthwith upon the exercise of his professorial functions.

While professor at Bowdoin College, Mr. Longfellow pursued his literary career with vigour. Besides contributing some valuable criticisms to the "North American Review," he published, in 1833, his translation, from the Spanish, of the celebrated poem, of "The Death of Maurice on the Death of his Father," together with an introductory essay on "The Art of Poetry," and, in 1835, his "Outre Mer." In the latter year, having already, at the age of twenty-eight, been recognised as a man of mark, he was appointed to the professorship of modern languages and belles-lettres in Harvard College, Cambridge. Mr. Longfellow then left his native land, and fared forth to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the languages and literature of Northern Europe. With this object, he spent more than twelve months in Denmark, Sweden, Germany, and Turkey, and again visited Europe in 1842.



THE RESIDENCE OF H. W. LONGFELLOW

Mr. Longfellow, pursuing his success, published, in 1839, "Hyperion," a romance, the success of which are supposed to have been drawn from some passages in his own life; and this work, which found high favour with refined and intelligent readers, was followed by "Voices of the Night," the earliest collection of his poems. In 1841, appeared "Ballads and other Poems," in 1842, "Poems on Slavery," in 1843, the play entitled, "The Spanish Student," and in 1845, "The Poets and Poetry of Europe," and the "Belfry of Bruges."

Having for years cultivated his natural poetic power, and made himself one of the most skilful versifiers of the time, Mr. Longfellow, in 1847, published his "Evangeline," a melancholy story written in hexameters, an experiment which, though it was, in the opinion of critics, somewhat hazardous for a poet of reputation to venture upon, he tried with no slight success. —and, in 1851, he gave to the world "The Golden Legend," a work whose exquisite passages fully maintained its author's reputation for genius, and elicited no small measure of praise.

We accompany this brief sketch with an extract from Mr. Longfellow's forthcoming volume, "The Song of Hiawatha"—a poem which, we have no doubt, will prove worthy of his fine taste and talent, and display the delicacy of sentiment, the literary art, the elegance of style, and the exquisite simplicity of expression, which have characterised his former works, and made his name widely known, as one of the great poets of the age.



SCENE, FROM THE NEW DRAMA "HAMILTON OF BOTHWELLHAUGH."—(SEE PAGE 355.)

THE BLACK COCK.

BY HARRY HIEOVER.

Should we use the term Black Game or Black Grouse, we should equally designate the species of bird which is the subject of our sketch. The hypercritical might allege in contradistinction to classing the black cock as grouse, that the natural avoidance of each other as manifested by these two birds renders their being of one genus doubtful. Such opinion may be refuted in a very few words. We presume that no one can but admit that the red and the fallow deer are directly of the same race of animals, yet they never mix in social intercourse. It might be said, that the superior size and strength of the red deer intimidates the other. Does the superior size of the horse or ox intimidate the sheep? We trust this will at once answer the surmised objection. It is said, and was at one time a very prevalent opinion among naturalists and sportsmen, that the Black game actually destroyed the Red grouse; such opinion had, however, no truth for its foundation. That on the advent of a pitched battle, the former would be found more than a match for the latter, we quite believe to be the case; but such contests would be far too rare to in any way support the accusation of the black game thinning in any perceptible degree the number of the red grouse. The difference of colour might be mentioned as a feature subservive to classing the two birds together, but we believe ornithologists all agree that the Goldfinch and Canary are quite the same genus; in fact, they breed together in a domesticated state, though nature, to keep all breeds of living things pure, induces each to avoid propagation with the other under any ordinary circumstances. Thus far, we trust, we are borne out in classing black game as grouse.

The pugnacious disposition of the black cock towards the red grouse, does not owe its origin to any particular animosity to the latter, for the black cock, at particular seasons, fights with its own direct tribe just as vindictively as it would with the red grouse. No hero ever lived who prided himself more on victory than does the black cock; he struts, swells his throat, elevates and displays his tail, with all the assumed importance of the Turkey cock; and, however much favour one particular bird may find in the eyes of his mistresses, he has earned his distinction by many a hard-fought battle.

We must not consider black game as indigenous to Scotland, though, far beyond the memory of man, it is in that locality (so far as regards the United Kingdom) it is found in the greatest numbers. Cumberland, Yorkshire, parts of Hampshire, and many parts of Wales, produce this bird in considerable quantity. To go farther, the black cock is found in great numbers in Russia. Yet, although we might conclude that many parts of Ireland are peculiarly adapted to the breeding and supporting of this bird, we have not heard of its being found there, though the red grouse is.

It must not be considered that the heather is indispensably necessary to the nature or habits of black game, for it would (if permitted to do so without constant persecution) inhabit our forests, and we strongly suspect that it, as well as many other wild animals, selects uninviting localities as its habitation, not so much from choice, as from instinct indicating the locality where they have most liberty, and can best avoid persecution. It is quite a mistake to suppose the food found among the bleak hills of Scotland or the moors of some of our English counties, are necessary to grouse, or even that it would be preferred if better was to be procured without increased inconvenience, or fatal results to itself. The Cossack horse is content with (or at least endures) the miseries of winter, and the scanty fare found in the steppes of Russia, but we are not to infer that he would not greatly prefer the rich pastures of this kingdom. He avoids men from natural fear, and hence keeps to his native inhospitable wilds; so does the grouse. Now, it is quite certain this bird as well as the red grouse, are as naturally granivorous as the Turkey; only the latter has become domesticated, the former has not—at least, not generally so; yet we know the red grouse has not only lived and thriven, but bred in a domesticated state; which shows that its wildness is from habit, and not more from nature than many other birds; and we should say, that in the course of a genera-



DR. GRIFFITH,—(PROSECUTOR OF THE INDICTMENT AGAINST STRAHAN, PAUL AND BATES.)

tion or two, the black cock could be domesticated also. Another, and we should say convincing proof, that barren hills or equally barren moors are not natural to the black cock, is, that it *perches*. It seeks the open ground to bask in, but it seeks its rest and great part of its food, from the buds of the trees on which it perches; at least, it does so in the winter. In summer it finds nutriment in the seeds and produce of the vegetation the hills and moors produce, such as the cranberry, wortleberry, and other shrub-like plants. Let it, however, be borne in mind, that these are what we can but call makeshifts, with which the bird supports nature, being the best its wild home affords.

The black cock, like many birds not in a state of domesticity, leaves the care of the brood to the maternal solicitude of the hen-bird; no very uncommon circumstance, on the part of him who holds himself lord of all in this sublunary world. The hen for a time conceals her callow brood in the tall heather, but when they grow stronger she takes them to the more exposed situations, where, probably, her instinct tells her more food is to be obtained.

The young birds, even when able to fly, are (we can think of no better phrase) the most stupid little animals we know of; they will permit any one to approach them as much as would a young gosling. No compliment to man—they have not yet learned his wiles and cruelty: but experience or kind nature endowing them with more caution, as they grow more into what man makes war on, towards the winter they grow wilder, and become exceedingly difficult of approach. In this particular they, and the older birds, evince a very singular peculiarity: no bird is more shy of the

approach of man, when on the hills or moors, than is the black cock; but when on what we should term their home, that is, their roosting and feeding places, there we should say, black-cock shooting ceases to be interesting to the sportsman, though highly so to the mere pothunter. For there the same bird that on any thing like near approach on the heather, would have taken instant alarm, and winged his way, perhaps for miles, to his favourite roosting place, becomes with a very little precaution, as easy of access as a domestic bird. There is another and far more singular peculiarity in these birds, which we know of in no other: they do not appear alarmed at the report of fire-arms; for, supposing one, two, three, or more, were roosting on the same tree, and one was brought down, the others would merely (as it were) look on with apparent curiosity, and only by a kind of cackling or chattering noise, indicate their observance of the fate of their companion.

We must mention a further singularity in this bird: as we have said before, in particular situations, and without particular stratagem, it is all but impossible to get within gun-range of him, but get on a horse, you may come within the required distance; and further, let it be a pony, and bend your body along his neck, so that he becomes a more conspicuous object than yourself, you may, with this manoeuvre, come close to the whole pack. They fear not horse or gun; it is only the human form they dread. Oh, man, man! you may fancy that all other living creatures shrink from your self-styled august presence, and cede their place to a superior being, but the truth is, in your own and in other races of creation, your selfish and dominating cruelties, have made you feared by many, and detested by not a few.

Everything considered, we cannot look on black-cock shooting with very favourable eyes; for we must either calculate on a most wearisome pursuit to little purpose, if we pursue these birds in a legitimate sportsmanlike manner, or we must seek them as we would barn-door fowls, in their resting places; where the sport becomes a species of rook shooting. This being easily done in a way, where the best dogs in the world would be useless, perhaps, in some measure, accounts for the scarcity of black game; leaving them, as it does, so much open to the approaches of those who seek them as a sure marketable article. We have not, however, the slightest doubt, but if gentlemen owning preserves for other game, would introduce the black cock there, he would thrive and multiply as much as any other description of game.

A CLERICAL FRIEND OF THE POOR.—At a recent meeting of the Herts Agricultural Society, the Rev. W. Malet told the following home truths:—"I see farmers are rewarded for having sheep, and cows, and pigs in good condition; I should like to see a prize offered to the farmer who would have his labouring men in the best condition. When our young men by hundreds joined the militia at Hertford, it was publicly remarked that they were low in flesh but high in bone—they must have come from hard work, or no work and low food, or not such as men require in this climate; their uniform hung loosely on them, but in a month's time, by the care of their noble master, the colonel, seeing they had a regular supply of animal food, they filled out their red coats; and when they came home on a Sunday to visit their friends, the latter were astonished at their improvement in condition. I say, then, we want some means of putting our labouring men, as well as our cattle and sheep, in better condition—they must be well fed as well as the cattle and sheep—it behoves landlords and farmers to look to this; wages must rise with the cost of provisions. If this were the case, the poor man would not be compelled to take his little boy away from school at eight or nine years of age to work for food, but he would be able to keep him there, as he ought to do, till twelve or thirteen. In my own parish of Ardeley there are—even after all the drain of the war and the militia—about twenty men more than the land requires, and yet, by the absurdities of our Poor-law, they are tied down to the parish, and dare not go beyond the neighbourhood for employment. I say these restrictions are a clog to the labourer and inconsistent with these days of locomotion."



BLACK COCK SHOOTING.—(DRAWN BY ANDRELL.)

Literature.

My Exile in Siberia. By ALEXANDER HERZEN. 2 vols. Hurst & Blackett.

MR. HERZEN'S manner is not the best thing about his book. It is desultory, abrupt,—mingles epigram, and sentiment, and a certain vagueness together, in a style more suited to the (modern) French than to the English taste. But his matter is in a high degree curious, and, just now, is likewise important. He gives us a picture of Russia, actual results of personal knowledge of Russia,—and his book will be swallowed as eagerly as the second edition of a newspaper.

It is the story of the modern mind of European culture in contact with the despotism of Russia. It is the problem of that government to have to govern countless millions of a rude people by a system as strict as that of a convict-ship, and along with them to have to manage Young Russia, with its French, German, and English ideas. It is a tremendous problem, and one which they set about as sternly as a captain in our navy last century dealing with a lower-deck disciple of Tom Paine. Given a despotism,—a barbarous population,—and restless young Moscow students who read Mirabeau,—what is a Czar to do? European cultivation there must be. How let it in without danger? How let it in, and keep out light? Mr. Herzen tells us something of the struggle, and of his share in it. This gives his work personal interest—sentimental colour. Political students who read it, may see what proselytising is under proper conditions, where a government won't stand the kind of thing. Among us, to abuse a sovereign or agitate a country, is a perfectly safe and lucrative occupation;—in the region of "casemates," with the Caucasus, the dungeon, Siberia, and the jail before your eyes, you require some nerve. We could not help reflecting, after reading our author, how many Britons who are ready to "die for their country" (and who make a good thing of the operation) would sing very small if within the quick ears of the Petersburg chief of the police! How many a singer here would—

"Wait a little longer!"—

before tuning the revolutionary lyre!

Another reflection early strikes the reader of these pages. How to the strongest despot the punishment of his sins comes round at last! What has kept up public feeling in Europe during this war, nerving its red right arm to strike straight and hard, warning the popular heart, and urging it on?—what but the notion that brutal excesses of passion, foul cruelties, filthy wrong, mark Russian administration? The political objects of the war are distinct; the feeling which makes it popular is another separate power, and that feeling is mainly one of revolt against a system which tramples on the human heart and the human affections, which employs the spy's baseness to help the bully's strength, and which, in carrying out its objects (one of them the oppression, through Turkey, of Europe) mauls mere humanity as unregardingly as does whirling mill-machinery. Every man who, like Mr. Herzen, gives such a government trouble, does his mite to keep it too busy to plague the civilised portion of Europe.

Mr. Herzen, we have hinted, is vague. He does not connect his history together, but makes it pass before us rather in a spectral manner—we suppose for the sake of the picturesque. But we must make the best of it, and endeavour to convey to our readers as much positive information as possible. To this end, let us make an extract or two:—

CIVIL OFFICIALS.

"One of the most lamentable results of the revolutions effected by Peter I., is the development of the caste of civil officials. This unnatural, uncultivated, hungry race of men understands nothing but 'to serve,' knows nothing except the rules and the forms of office. They represent a sort of secular hierarchy, who offer their worship, and build their altars in the courts of justice, and in the police offices, and whose eager impure lips suck the blood of the people.

"Gogol has unveiled some phases of their existence, and has shown us their loathsomeness in full relief. But he mollifies us involuntarily by his humour, and his hatred is soiled by his great comic talent. Besides, it was hardly possible for him, under the surveillance of the Russian censorship, to disclose the sad characteristics of this filthy lower world, in which the fate of the poor Russian people was moulded.

"There, in these smoky offices, which we will hasten to quit, ragged people sit and write, at first on gray paper, then on stamped paper, and according to the tenor of these papers, individuals, families, and whole villages are ill-treated, terrified, ruined. Fathers are sent to Siberia, mothers imprisoned, sons made soldiers; and all this comes upon them like a thunderstorm, unexpectedly, and, for the most part, quite undeservedly. And wherefore is all this? For money's sake. Be quick! make a collection, else you will be summoned under one pretence or another; for instance, an inquest will be held on the dead body of some drunkard, who has been burnt to death by ardent spirits, or frozen by the cold. To avoid this, the chief of the village (the starost) prefers making a collection, and the peasants bring their last farthing. The commissary of police must live, and his wife also. The captain of the district must live and educate his children. Oh, he is a model of a father!

"This caste of civil officials is particularly numerous in the north-west provinces of Russia, and in Siberia. In these very distant provinces, it has been able to develop itself without impediment. There, all its members are occupied with their own gains alone; theft has become a *res publica*. Even the Imperial power, which generally fires grape-shot, is unable to pierce through this muddy, snow-covered cesspool, full of thick dirt. All the measures which Government has taken have been weakened; all their intentions misinterpreted. Government is continually cheated, made a fool of, or deluded; and all this is achieved amid the most devout, slavish subordination, and with the observance of the most minute official forms."

THE PRIEST IN RUSSIA.

"The priest in Russia becomes more and more a spiritual police officer, as is to be expected from the Byzantine humility of our Greek Church, and from our Imperial popery. One part of the race of the Finlanders had accepted baptism, even before the time of Peter I.; another part was baptised during the reign of the Empress Elizabeth; but a third is still heathen to this very day; and even those who were baptised, during the reign of Elizabeth, clung in secret to their old, gloomy, wild faith. Every two or three years, the Chief Officer, or the Head of the Police (Stanovoi), with the Priest, passes through the villages in order to investigate who of the Wataikes has been to the Lord's Supper, and who has not, and why. They are then oppressed in every way; imprisoned, whipped, and they must pay. But the Chief of the Police and the Priest, try before everything else to collect proofs that these poor people have not given up their former religious ceremonies.

"After some proof has been found, the spiritual spy and police missionary make a noise. They ask an immense ransom, make 'black day,' and drive off, leaving everything as it was, in order to have an opportunity some years later of coming again with rod and cross."

HOMEWARD BOUND FROM SIBERIA.

"The following day, I arrived at Soransk. From this point, the road runs through endless pine-woods. The nights were moonlight; the ground was frozen; the small sledge glided quickly over the narrow road. Such woods I have never seen again. They extend, without interruption, to Archangel, whence rein-deer sometimes pass through them to the district of Wiatka. Most of the trees are suitable for building. The pines, wonderfully straight, flew past my sledge like soldiers, tall and snow-covered, and their pointed pinnacles looked out of the snow like upraised daggers. You fall asleep, you awake—the regiments of pine-trees pass uninterruptedly, with a hurried step, past the sledge, shaking off the snow from time to time; and then comes the post station, in a small space cut out of the wood: There stands a little house behind the trees, seeming to have lost its way hither. The horses, tied to a pile, ring their little bells; some Tcheremiss boys rush out of the house, in their embroidered shirts, still half asleep. The Wataike postillion begins, in a hoarse voice, to quarrel with his companion; then he exclaims, 'Aida! aida!' commencing a song of two notes—and again the eye meets with snow and pines—pines and snow."

On the occasion of the first exile related in the book, Mr. Herzen's crime was attending a supper at which revolutionary songs were sung, when, according to his own account, he was not even present! In Siberia itself, he seems not to have been so severely treated as we expected to hear. But every now-and-then little tales occur, which we suppose are true, and which chill one's blood with horror. Sometimes you fancy things better off than you before would have done—as if on the dead barren steppes of barbarism you came to spoils of green and hopefulness. Then, all of a sudden, you light on such a thing as this:—

AN OLD MAN'S STORY.

"Such a gloomy character pervaded the old man's tales, that he always made me thoughtful.

"In the year 1817, he had been in the campaign against the Turks, under the command of a very kind-hearted captain, who took care of all his soldiers, as though they were his children, and, in fact, was always at their head under fire.

"A Moldavian woman," Philimonoff related, 'had bewitched the captain. We observed once that he was very distressed. The thing was, look'ye, that—

* Quicker, quicker.

understand—he had remarked that the Moldavian went also to another officer. He then called us one day, me and one of my comrades, a fine fellow, both whose legs were shot off later at Little Joroslav, and told us how the Moldavian had betrayed him, and asked if we would assist to give her a lesson for it."

"Why not," we answered, "we are always ready with all our heart to serve your lordship."

"He thanked us, and said, 'she will certainly go this night to see him (showing the house where the officer lived); post yourselves on the bridge, and when she passes, grasp her silently, and into the river with her!'

"Very well, Captain," we said. We provided ourselves with a sack, and sat down on the bridge; towards midnight the Moldavian came. We went up to her. 'Where are you going in such haste, gracious lady?' we exclaimed, and with these words, she received a blow on the head. The sweetheart did not utter a sound; we put her into the sack, and threw her into the water. The following day our captain went to the officer and said, 'Don't be angry with the Moldavian girl; we slightly prevented her coming; that is to say, she is just now lying at the bottom of the river. But I should like to take a little walk with you, with swords or pistols, whichever you prefer.'

"Well, then, they had a duel. Our Captain was shot through the chest; the good man pined away, and some months after he expired."

"And the Moldavian," I asked, "was she drowned?"

"She was drowned," the soldier observed.

In his second exile, our author's offence was "spreading a rumour." That is to say, a policeman had murdered a man in the night, and Herzen, in common with the rest of the townsfolk, had talked of the matter. For the Government is omnipresent, and weighs on your spirit like a depressing mist. Everywhere there is suspicion—everywhere, spies.

One of the most interesting (though it will not be one of the most generally popular) parts of the book, is the account in vol. 2nd of the spread of European thought in Moscow—of some Russian writers, and students, and their relation to the Government. We do not forget that we have here a professed "Liberal's" account of Russia, nor that the worst Government has something to say for itself, when it silences such men for its own existence's sake. But allowing for all, enough is said to prove very black acts against the system, and to reveal much revolting barbarism in the life of this empire. Time will inevitably lead to great difficulties there, from the operation of such causes as Mr. Herzen shows us to be at work.

Of the existing war, the author has little to say; though he seems to be of opinion that Russia will be the first to yield. His occasional remarks on European Government we do not accept as cheerfully as we do his accounts of the country which he knows best. His positive political opinions are not anywhere openly stated, though at times a kind of mystical socialism looms upon us, through a fog which we consider it very prudent of Mr. Herzen to wrap it in. We have been, altogether, much interested by his book.

EXECUTION OF A BOY.—The execution of a boy named Frank, for the murder of Rev. J. J. Weems, took place in the United States lately. It is strange to say that the majority of the citizens of Alexandria, and, in fact, the inhabitants all round, were anxious to see him executed; though on the fatal day, when it came to pass, there were not a dozen people there. Some rode forty miles to witness this painful drama, but he was executed and buried by the time they reached Alexandria. On the day before he was called to face death, some gentlemen visited him and propounded questions to him; but his answers were and could be no other than childish. He was only ten years old. The gentlemen told him the sheriff was to hang him on the next morning, and asked him what he thought of it, and whether he had made his peace with God, and why he did not pray? His answer was, "I have been hung many a time!" He was, at the time, amusing himself with some marbles he had in his cell. He was playing all the time in jail, never once thinking that death was soon to claim him as his victim. To show you how a child's mind ranges when about to die, I will mention that, when upon the scaffold, he begged to be permitted to pray, which was granted, and then he commenced to cry. O what a horrible sight it was!—*New Orleans Paper.*

SUICIDE OF A CLERGYMAN.—At Llanfalle, a village in Carmarthenshire, the Rev. Richard Hughes committed suicide by hanging himself to the bed-post by his neckerchief. The deceased was a single man, and between fifty and sixty years of age. It appeared that Mr. Hughes had complained of being unable to sleep at night, and that his health was not of the best, he being an exceedingly stout gentleman, and using scarcely any exercise. The jury returned a verdict of suicide while in a state of temporary insanity.

TRIAL OF STRAHAN, PAUL, AND BATES, FOR EMBEZZLEMENT.

THE cause of public justice and commercial morality has at length been fully vindicated by the trial, conviction, and sentence passed on Saturday last, on Sir J. D. Paul, and Messrs. Strahan and Bates. Against the first of the three the evidence was of a nature quite overwhelming, and nothing was left to his counsel but to urge technical objections in his favour. Against the other two the evidence rested rather on general presumptions and probabilities, but these proved too strong to be overcome, and the facts brought out at the trial, leave no doubt but that Strahan and Bates were accomplices in the acts of Sir John Paul, and therefore, in public estimation, justly subjected to the same condemnation.

The Attorney-General having given, on the part of the prosecution, a summary of the evidence previously adduced, the Rev. Dr. Griffith of Rochester was called, and stated:—

In 1850 he directed (defendants) to invest in Danish Five per Cents., and witness was debited in his passbook (Feb. 4), with £2,000 odd, the price paid for them. Witness received a "bought note" of the transaction. In April, 1850, witness ordered a purchase of £1,000 more of the same stock, and was charged with the purchase of £958 15s. In April, 1851, he ordered a further purchase of £2,000, and was charged in the pass-book £2,057 10s. 6d., entered April 16, and so stated in the bought note. Witness thinks he never asked to see the bonds, but he had repeated conversations with Mr. Bates respecting them. He used to transact his banking business wholly with Mr. Bates, who frequently said the securities were perfectly safe, and he would keep charge of them. On April 28, 1855, witness had a conversation respecting these particular bonds with Mr. Bates in the presence of Mr. Strahan. He (witness) observed that they had received his dividend on the Danish Bonds, but not on his gas shares; and Bates replied, "We have, I think, this very morning received the dividends on the gas shares, but they are not yet passed to your account." Nothing more was then heard about the Danish Bonds. The interest on them was regularly passed to witness's account down to March, 1855. Witness never gave them any authority to sell, pledge, or convert to their own use these securities. Witness was in London at the time of the failure, and put the matter into the hands of his solicitor, and warrants were applied for at Bow Street. Application was made at the bank relating to the securities, and no satisfactory information could be got. Strahan eventually called on witness. Two of Strahan's friends had previously seen witness. Strahan's first observation was, "I am surprised that you could get no information at the bank respecting your securities. I and my partners were there to give whatever information might be required." Mr. Strahan added, that they were engaged day and night in making up their accounts, and if witness continued his legal measures it would be very detrimental to the creditors at large, and particularly to witness himself, as there was no possibility of recovering the securities; whereas, if witness abstained from proceedings, there was a good chance of having the securities replaced or repaid, as both he and Sir J. D. Paul had great expectations of receiving money hereafter, whereby these securities might be restored. He added, that they had prepared notes of hand for him in case he called at the bank. He also said that Sir J. D. Paul and himself had placed the securities in the hands of Overend and Co., or Burnand and Co., he could not tell which, and that Sir J. D. Paul was not alone to blame, himself (Strahan) being equally to blame and responsible, as it was done with his full knowledge and consent. And he said, "I assure you this is the first dishonest act of my life. I never before defrauded any man of sixpence."

Sir F. Thesiger called attention to the nature of the evidence against his client, Mr. Strahan—

Dr. Griffith was told that his securities had been taken by Sir J. D. Paul to Messrs. Overend or Burnand about six weeks previously. It was clear that this statement could not apply to the bonds in question, which were sold in March, 1854, and, with the exception of a statement made by Mr. Bell, the official assignee, of a conversation of the 16th of June last, in which Mr. Strahan was stated to have told him that Dr. Griffith's securities were either pawned or sold, there was nothing to affect Mr. Strahan with a knowledge of the sale of these bonds by Foster and Braithwaite, and the payment of the proceeds of the sale to Sir J. D. Paul. He wished to know whether their Lordships thought there was evidence to go to the jury as against Mr. Strahan?

Mr. Baron Alderson thought there was evidence enough to go to a jury.

Sir F. Thesiger reminded their Lordships that £5,000 worth of Danish Bonds had been bought by the bank, and there was no evidence that any other customer

except Dr. Griffith held this description of stock. Dr. Griffith had previously received the dividends on this stock so replaced.

Mr. Baron Alderson thought there was evidence—he would not say how good, or how little—to show that Strahan was a party to the representation of Dr. Griffith that the bank had these particular bonds safe at the time they were all gone.

Mr. Baron Martin and Mr. Justice Willis concurred.

Mr. James wished to know whether the court considered that there was any evidence as against his client, Mr. Bates?

Mr. Baron Alderson thought there was. The evidence was not of the strongest as against Bates, because he seemed to be taking a more active part in the affairs of the bank than the others.

Sir F. Thesiger then addressed the jury at considerable length on the facts of Mr. Strahan.

Mr. Sergeant Byles, on behalf of Sir J. D. Paul, said:—

His client had been charged with being a religious man only for his own selfish gains, and of assuming the character of a benevolent person, in order to attract charitable societies to his bank, which societies afterwards he proved to be great losers by his failure. That was an utter calumny. He was a benevolent man from his own means while yet young, and when his father was living, and his charity was evinced in supporting incumbents in poor places, and in nudgingly advancing his own interests. Sir J. D. Paul was considered a person of unquestioned integrity and honour. He (Sergeant B.) did not deny that these bonds were disposed of by Sir J. D. Paul, but upon the failure of Gendell for £300,000, who was largely indebted to the bank, Sir J. D. Paul was desirous of raising money on these bonds. He did raise money upon them, but with the full intention of replacing them immediately, which he did. He bought the same number of bonds back in the following June, and replaced them at a sacrifice. He paid Dr. Griffith the dividends on these bonds, so that the doctor sustained no loss of interest; and it was for selling these bonds on the 1st of March, and buying them on the 1st of June following at an advance, that Sir J. D. Paul was now on his trial before the jury. Sir J. D. Paul did not entrust him to say, and he did not say, that, in raising this money, although he replaced the bonds, he was not doing wrong. Sir J. D. Paul admitted he did wrong, but he replaced Dr. Griffith's bonds at a loss to himself.

On behalf of Mr. Bates, Mr. E. James stated that:—

He rested the case of the defendant Bates upon his total ignorance of the sale of the Danish Bonds through Foster and Braithwaite. There was an entire absence of any evidence to show that he was a party to that sale. The mere fact that Mr. Bates was a partner in the firm in 1854 was not enough to fix him with the criminal consequences of this alleged transaction. The transaction of the 16th of March, 1854, was the transaction of Sir J. D. Paul, and Mr. Bates was not implicated in it; and after the pledging of the bonds to Overend, Gurney, and Co. became known to Mr. Bates, he discovered the whole transaction.

Mr. Baron Alderson having given a comprehensive summary of the evidence adduced, the jury were called upon for their verdict. They retired, and after an absence of twenty minutes, they returned and pronounced a verdict of guilty against all the defendants.

Mr. Baron Alderson inquired their opinion of the "disclosure" before the Court of Bankruptcy.

The Foreman replied, that the opinion of the jury was, that it was no disclosure within the meaning of the act.

Mr. Baron Alderson—You look on it, then, as a sham affair?

The Foreman stated that the jury did not consider it a *bond file* disclosure.

Mr. Baron Alderson said that, as there was unanimity touching the invalidity of the disclosure made by the prisoners, he would suggest the entering of the verdict upon the first and third counts, which would prevent the raising of a question of law as to compulsory or other declarations on the part of the prisoners. The jury assented, and then

The Learned Baron, in a low voice, and evidently affected, proceeded to pass sentence. Naming the prisoners, he told them the jury had found them guilty of the charges laid in the indictment. They had been convicted of the offence of disposing of certain securities placed in their hands, as bankers, for safe custody and for the use of a client or customer, but which securities they had appropriated for their own benefit, under circumstances of temptation. It was not easy to conceive a worse case, or one more likely to tend to shaking confidence in bankers and persons to whom hitherto the public were in the habit of entrusting securities and moneys. A greater or more serious offence could hardly be imagined in a great commercial community like that of this country, or one more likely to weaken the confidence of all persons in such establishments as that which they had so long, and, until a somewhat recent period, so honourably conducted. He very much regretted that it had fallen to his lot to pass sentence upon persons in their position, but the public interest and public justice required it, and it was not for him to shrink from the duty, however painful it was to him. He could have wished that that duty had fallen upon some one else, recollecting as he did that he had more than once met, at least, one of the prisoners under far different circumstances—sitting by his side in high office [an allusion to the office of High Sheriff for Surrey, once filled by Sir J. D. Paul] instead of being before him in the prisoners' dock. All the prisoners had been well educated, and had moved in high positions of society. The punishment which was about to fall on them, therefore, would be far more severe, far more heavy, and much more keenly felt, than it would be by persons in a lower condition of life. It would also, he regretted to say, afflict those who were connected with them, and who would naturally feel their present position with great severity. These, however, were not considerations for him at that moment; all he had to do was to say, that he could not conceive any worse case of the sort that could arise under the statute under which they had been convicted, and that being the case, he had no alternative but to pass upon them the full sentence which the Act of Parliament provided for the worst class of offences arising under it. That was, fourteen years' transportation. The Learned Baron then sentenced each of the prisoners to that extreme punishment.

The prisoners left the dock, and neither on their part, nor on that of the persons in court, was any manifestation of feeling perceptibly exhibited.

It is understood that Paul, Strahan, and Bates, will remain in Newgate or the Millbank Prison until a complete investigation of their affairs is made, and a balance-sheet in bankruptcy filed, and that afterwards they will be removed to Gibraltar for the remaining period of their penal sentence.

A "MUGGER," named James Conroy, and two of his associates, have been arrested on suspicion of being implicated in the murder of the old woman, Dorothy Bewicke, at Metfen, Northumberland, reported by us last week.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

WILLIAM RADLEY, who described himself as a civil engineer, was brought up on Tuesday, at Guildhall, charged with forging the name of Lord Colville, and obtaining goods from Messrs. Milner and Son, of Moorgate Street, without the said Lord Colville's consent.

Radley said—I have been grossly deceived by Colville. He represented himself to me as Lord Colville, and gave me a power of attorney to act for him, and I thought I was dealing with a person of respectability; instead of that, it turned out that, in 1848, the House of Lords had decided against his claim to the title, and that his name had been struck off the list of peers at Holyrood Palace.

A Mr. Garnett said—I have known Lord Colville some time. I am an agent to the Enumbered Estates Court of Ireland, in London, and with my connection with it, the prosecutor was sent to me, as understanding matters relating to property and titles. I have examined his papers, and I believe him to be the right heir to the title and estates of Colville. A respectable solicitor has taken up the case, and no doubt will prosecute his claim to the title.

Sir Peter Laurie—I know Lord Colville, but this is not the man. Mr. Garnett—No, sir; that is Lord Colville of Culross, and this is Lord Colville of Ochiltree.

Radley—I have been given into custody merely to prevent me giving evidence in an action that was to have been tried this day. The action was to recover a book which has been printed respecting Lord Colville's claim to the title.

Evidence having been taken as to the delivery of the goods, Lord Colville said—I never gave Radley authority to get the goods, and I never had them. I charge him with forging my name and obtaining goods by false pretences.

The manager for Messrs. Milner was then sworn, and said—I received three letters purporting to come from Lord Colville. I acted upon them, and sent safes, &c., to the amount of £41 6s. 6d. I did not know either the prisoner or Lord Colville. If I had seen them I would not have trusted them with the safes. I sent the goods, believing the letters came from the real Lord Colville. I have not seen the articles since. I have seen the prisoner with the person who calls himself Lord Colville, walking together, but it is now several months since. At the trial that took place at the Mansion House, Lord Colville was charged with stealing a coat and a horse-cloth, and I was called upon there, as it was known that we had supplied him with goods, to see if I could substantiate any charge against him; but this case was not entered into. On that occasion, the charge was dismissed.

Lord Colville, being further examined, said—The letters were not written by me. I know nothing about them. The envelope has my crest. I don't know how prisoner got it. My crest is not here; it is a long way off. I did not authorize him to get a seal made for me.

The prisoner was ultimately remanded until Saturday, but Sir Peter Laurie admitted him to bail, himself, in £10 and his co-defendant in £20.

SENTRY RIOTS.—William Jones, James Warwick, and Henry Wheatstone, three lads in their teens, were brought on Monday before the Marlborough Police Court, charged with being in the company of a riotous assembly, in Hyde Park on Sunday last, and with assaulting the police.

A police-sergeant said—Yesterday, about four o'clock, I was in Hyde Park on duty. I was in the midst of a mob of about 400 persons who were looting and shouting at the police, and also throwing stones at them. I distinctly saw Jones throw a clod at me, which clod struck me on the hat and knocked it off. I called out to him that he had better leave that off, and he answered, "Go to you — you — what have you to do with it?" I then saw Wheatstone take up a clod and throw it at me—the clod knocked my hat off a second time. At this moment there were loud cries of "Give it them, boys!" and had not the horse police and several other constables come to my assistance, I should have been blinded by the mob. I did not see Warwick do anything myself. The disturbance commenced, as far as I can judge, by the mob beginning to pelt two gentlemen, who appeared to be trying to make their escape, and it was then that I and other constables interfered. There were mobs in different parts of the Park, and their numbers were about 18,000 or 19,000, several persons were speaking to the crowds, but I do not know on what subject.

A police-constable—I was on duty in Hyde Park. I saw Warwick throw a clod at the first witness. Several gentlemen cried out, "that served you right," when the prisoner was taken.

Inspector Jackson examined.—A large meeting was held yesterday in Hyde Park, and at one time there were from 25,000 to 30,000 persons present. It was reported that the meeting was convened for the purpose of adopting measures which were to lower the price of provisions—bread, in particular. Everything went on peaceably; the crowd was addressed by several persons, among whom was Mr. Ernest Jones. At four o'clock some persons began to pelt missiles. I saw clods flying through the air, and I then perceived that something was amiss. One mob went in the direction of Abchurch Lane, and the other went towards the Marble Arch. I was in the act of ordering the Park Gate to be shut, knowing what had been done on the previous Sunday, when a gentleman came up bleeding at the mouth, and covered with dirt and claimed the protection of the police. I took hold of the gentleman, and called upon the mob to desist from violence. Some of the clods were as large as the crown of a man's hat. I received some of the clods myself; and I can, therefore, say that they hurt a person very much. Several gentlemen complained to me and the police of the conduct of the mob. We were obliged to use our staves, and we succeeded in rescuing the police-sergeant, covered with mud, and much exhausted, from the mob. There were many respectfully dressed persons in the mob, but they appeared to be there from curiosity. The majority were persons like the defendants. I ascertained that the assaulted gentleman had done nothing to cause his ill-treatment. Some one had bonneted him out of wantonness, and then he became fair game for the mob. The mob also chased an old woman and a dog—in fact, anything, no matter what.

The Magistrate—What have you to say to the charge? Jones—I was coming from Notting Hill with four or five of my shopmates. I had had a little drop of ale, and was rather fast, and the constable came up and said that I was the chap he wanted, and he took me, though I threw nothing.

Warwick—I did not throw anything.

Wheatstone—I didn't throw anything.

The Magistrate—I cannot but think that, if the ill-instructed persons who caused the assemblage of yesterday, were present here to-day, and saw in the prisoners the class of persons who are at once the abettors and victims of such proceedings, they would feel ashamed of their supporters, and refuse to sanction their conduct. The experience of all times, and above all of the last 65 years, has proved over and over again that no attempts made by mobs or Governments to regulate by force the price of provisions did ever succeed. Nor can any undertaking be so entirely devoid of all reasonable pretence. If the scarcity of the commodity be real, they who hoard for a higher price by putting consumers on short allowance, preserve them from absolute famine at the end of the year. If the failure of the crops be imaginary, a few weeks will compel the merchant to seek a market at lower prices, and perhaps ruin him for his mistake. I fear, however, that in addressing these observations to you—one of whom I perceive to be a thief recently released from prison—I am attempting in vain to produce any effect on your understandings. You must, however, be made sensible that you cannot be allowed to defy all authority, and that the interest of the working man requires that order should be maintained. If thieves or ruffians are to fix the price of corn, the employers who have money to pay in wages must seek a safer country. It must, therefore, be understood, by your example, that such attempts will, for the good of all, be steadily and firmly repressed, and with that view it will be necessary that each of you, for this assault on the police, be committed to prison for one calendar month.

Samuel Hobbs was charged with breaking windows in Curzon Street.

The police proved that, when the mob left the Park, they proceeded through Mayfair, shouting and breaking windows, selecting the most expensive, as they went along. The defendant was seen to throw a stone at a chemist's window in Curzon Street.

The defendant denied the charge, but was fined £3 damage, and 40s. for throwing stones.

SUPPOSED MURDER NEAR MANCHESTER.

On Thursday, last week, the body of a young woman was found in the bed of a small stream on the verge of Trafford Park, between Manchester and Stretford, under circumstances which lead to the suspicion that she has been murdered on or near the spot. The place is retired, at a distance from any road, and upwards of half-a-mile from the turnpike road from Manchester to Stretford. A man and a boy engaged in rat catching discovered the remains of the young woman, slightly embedded in mud, on the bank of the river Irwell. The water was about deep enough to cover the body, and when first seen her long black hair was loose and floating in the stream. The body was washed, and presented a very fresh appearance, but decomposition set in rapidly afterwards, and it is supposed that the young woman had been in the water for some days, as portions of her arms and legs had been eaten away by rats or other vermin. The police said that on the body being first washed there were discolorations about the neck, as if strangulation or pressure of some kind had been applied, and there was the appearance of a contusion over one of the eyes. The unfortunate woman had been only partially dressed, having on no bonnet or cap, no shoes, and only one stocking. She had on, in fact, besides the stocking, only a brown stuff dress, of a rather fashionable make, and braided down the front, and a white cotton twill chemise. What lends probability to the surmise that she has been murdered, is the statement by the police, that for eight or ten yards from the stream, on one of its banks, the grass was much trampled down, portions of the grass had been torn up by hand, and there were indentations on the bank, as of some person's knees to the depth of six inches. The woman's dress was much torn, as if in a struggle. She appears to have been about 25 or 26 years of age.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

Although the position of the Banks of England and France is still productive of much uneasiness, we have observed, this week, much less excitement on the subject of the late decrease in the stock of the precious metals. Con-

soils have slightly declined, and the business done in them has been trifling; nevertheless, confidence has been in a great measure restored, and the account transactions have certainly increased in extent. These features in the market, however, are easily accounted for. In the first place, the public have continued to purchase rather large quantities of stock, and the supply left in the hands of the jobbers is unusually small. In the second, we have had large arrivals of gold from Australia, which will, we are of opinion, tend to relieve the Bank of France of its present difficulties, and increase the supply in the Bank of England.

On the whole, the supply of money has rather increased; yet the best bills are not discounted in Lombard Street under 6 per cent. per annum. In the Stock Exchange, money may be had for short periods on Government security, at 4 to 4½ per cent. on "call," the present rate is 4½, and, for three months, 5 per cent.

The following are the leading quotations in the English market this week—3 per Cents Reduced, 87½; 3 per Cent Consols, 88½; New 3 per Cents, 88½; Bank Stock, 209; India Stock, 226; India Bonds, 2s. prem.; Exchange Bills, 3s. 6d. to 1s. prem.; Exchange Bonds, both sorts, 98½.

The dealings in the foreign market have been very small, arising, in some measure, from the settlement of the half-monthly account. Brazilian 5 per cents have realised 99½; ditto, small, 99½; ditto, New 5 per cents, 100; Chilean 6 per cents, 99½; Russian 3 per cents, 124; Russian 4½ per cents, 85½; Sardinian 5 per cents, 84½; Spanish New Deferred, 19½; Turkish 6 per cents, 79½; ditto, new scrip, 2½ dis.; Venezuela 4½ per cents, 26; Dutch 2½ per cents, 64.

The following return shows the total note circulation in the United Kingdom in the four weeks ending the 29th of September—

Bank of England	£19,859,174
Private Banks	3,712,604
Joint-Stock Banks	3,022,045
Scotland	4,094,106
Ireland	5,900,012
Total	36,587,941

The above return exhibits a decrease of £112,000 in the circulation of notes in England, and an increase of £293,623 in the circulation of the United Kingdom, when compared with the month ending the 1st of September. The increase compared with the corresponding period last year, is £747,335.

The Board of Trade returns, relating to the trade and navigation of the United Kingdom for the month ending Sept. 30, show that the value of English and Irish produce and manufacture exported during that period was £9,072,659—showing a decrease of £188,906 compared with last year. For the nine months the total value of our exports was £69,226,837, against £76,657,924 last year, being a decrease of £7,431,087. We have very few transactions to notice in railway shares. Prices, however, have been tolerably firm. Caledonian, 58½; Eastern Counties, 9; Great Northern, 83; Great Western, 50½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 75; London and Blackwall, 64; London and Brighton, 96; London and North Western, 92; London and South Western, 83; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 21½; Midland, 64; North British, 25½; North Eastern—Berwick, 68½; ditto York, 45½; Scottish Central, 102; Shropshire, Union, 41; South Devon, 114; South Wales, 30½; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 7½; Dutch Rhineish, 10½; Eastern of France, 36; Great Luxembourg, 44; Great Western of Canada, 23; Paris and Lyons, 44½; Royal Swedish, 3.

Mining shares have been heavy. Imperial Brazilian have marked 2½; United Mexican, 4½; and Waller, 4.

Joint-stock banks have been done as follows—Australia, 86½; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 16; London and County, 39½; London Joint-stock, 31½; London and Westminster, 46½; Oriental, 40½; Royal British, 50; South Australian, 39½; Union of Australia, 72.

Miscellaneous securities have met a dull market. Australian Agricultural, 26½; Australian Royal Mail, 44; Canada Company's Bonds, 138½; ditto Government 6 per cents, 108½; Crystal Palace, 2½; ditto Preference, 4½; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 14½; Scottish Australian Investment, 14½; St. Katharine Dock, 83; Van Diemen's Land, 12½.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The arrivals of English wheat up to our market this week have been very moderate, and the demand for all kinds has ruled heavy, at a decline in the quotations of 2s. per quarter. Foreign wheat has sold slowly, yet prices have been well supported. Floating cargoes have realised previous rates. Fine barley has been scarce, and in fair request, at full quotations. Inferior parcels have continued dull in sale. Malt has moved off steadily, at last week's currency. Old oats have changed hands steadily, but new qualities have ruled dull, and the turn in favour of buyers. No change has taken place in the value of beans. Gray and maple peas have realised full prices, but white qualities have given way 1s. per quarter. The flour trade has been in a very inactive state, at barely last week's advance.

ENGLISH CURRENCY.—Essex and Kent White Wheat, 64s. to 85s.; ditto, Red 58s. to 80s.; Malting Barley, 35s. to 42s. Distilling ditto, 35s. to 38s.; Grinding ditto, 35s. to 36s.; Malt, 61s. to 80s.; Rye, 48s. to 52s.; Feed oats, 27s. to 29s.; Potato ditto, 25s. to 31s.; Tick Beans, 40s. to 44s.; Pigeon, 43s. to 49s.; White Peas, 50s. to 55s.; Maple, 42s. to 46s.; Gray, 40s. to 45s., per quarter; Town-made Flour, 73s. to 75s.; Town Households, 64s. to 66s.; Country, 63s. to 65s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, 61s. to 62s., per 280lbs.

CATTLE.—The supplies of beasts have been moderate, and in very poor condition. Most breeds have sold steadily, at an advance of 2d. per 8 lbs. Prime sheep have been very scarce, and somewhat dearer. Inferior sheep have met a dull inquiry, on former terms. There has been a good demand for calves, and the quotations have had an upward tendency. The pork trade has ruled steady, on former terms. Beef, from 3s. 4d. to 3s.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 5s.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 5s.; pork, 3s. 10d. to 5s. per 8lbs., to sink the offal.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—The supplies have been but moderate, and the general demand has ruled steady as follows:—Beef, from 3s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 10d. to 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. by the carcase.

TEA.—Small public sales have been held this week. They have gone off slowly, at about previous rates. In the private market about an average business is doing, at full quotations:—Congou, 9d. to 2s. 6d.; Ning Yung and Oolong, 10d. to 1s. 9d.; Soucheong, 9d. to 2s. 8d.; Flowery Pekoe, 1s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; Caper, 1s. to 1s. 2d.; Scented Caper, 1s. to 1s. 8d.; Orange Pekoe, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 4d.; Scented Orange Pekoe, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 9d.; Twankay, 7d. to 1s. 2d.; Hyson Skin, 7d. to 1s.; Hyson, 1s. 4d. to 3s. 9d.; Young Hyson, 9d. to 3s.; Imperial, 11d. to 2s. 9d.; Gunpowder, 1s. to 3s. 6d.; Assam, 1s. to 4s. 4d. per lb.

SUGAR.—Higher prices continue to be paid for all new sugars, the advance, since our last report, being fully 2s. to 4s. per cwt. The stock is now nearly 50,000 tons less than in 1854. Floating cargoes have changed hands steadily, at full quotations. Refined goods are brisk. Brown lumps at 55s. to 57s.; and low to fine grocery, 55s. to 60s. per cwt.

MOLASSES.—There is an active inquiry for all kinds, on higher terms. Cuba, 23s. 6d. to 25s.; low to fine West India, 24s. to 25s. per cwt.

COFFEE.—We continue to have a very slow sale for all kinds, at barely stationary prices. Common sound Ceylon is freely offered at 50s. per cwt.

COCOA.—Our market is firm, and the quotations are well supported. Red Trinidad is worth 47s. to 51s.; Gray 44s. to 46s.; Granada, 43s. 6d. to 48s.; Bahia and Pera, 41s. to 42s. per cwt.

RICE.—About 2,000 tons Bengal have changed hands at 15s. to 17s. per cwt. The demand is less active.

PROVISIONS.—There is a good inquiry for Irish butter, at full prices. Cork is quoted at 108s. to 109s.; Carlow, 100s. to 109s.; Limerick, 94s. to 101s.; Waterford, 96s. to 101s. per cwt. landed. Foreign Butter moves off freely. Friesland at 108s. to 112s.; and Kiel, 100s. to 110s. per cwt. Fine English is rather dearer. Fine Dorset, 114s. to 116s.; Devon, 106s. to 108s. per cwt.; fresh, 12s. to 14s. per dozen lbs. Bacon is very dull, and 4s. per cwt. lower. Most other kinds of provisions rule about stationary.

WOOL.—The public sales of Colonial wool are progressing slowly, at a decline of from 1d. to 2d. per lb. English wools are very dull, and fully ½d. per lb. lower.

COTTON.—Most kinds are dull, yet scarcely any change has taken place in the quotations. Surat, 3½d. to 4½d.; Bengal, 3d. to 3½d.; Madras, 3½d. to 4½d. per lb.

HEMP AND FLAX.—All kinds of hemp are slow in sale, and Petersburg clean is quoted at £13 per ton. Flax moves off heavily, yet prices are supported.

METALS.—The business doing in manufactured iron is small, and prices rather favour buyers. Rails, at the works 48 5s. to 48 10s.; common bars, 48 5s. to 48 10s. per ton. Tin is tolerably firm, at 123s. 6d. to 124s. for Banca, and 123s. to 124s. for British. In tin-plates, very little is doing. I. C. coke, 28s. 6d. to 29s.; I. X. ditto, 31s. 6d. to 35s. 6d.; I. C. charcoal, 34s. to 34s. 6d.; and I. X. ditto, 39s. to 40s. per box. Lead is brisk, at £25 to £25 10s. per ton for British pig, and £26 to £26 10s. for sheet. Copper is quite as dear as last week. Spelter moves off slowly, at £23 15s. per ton for present delivery. English zinc is quoted at £31 per ton.

SPICES.—The market for rum is somewhat brisk. Proof Leeward, 2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d.; East India, 2s. 7d. to 2s. 8d. per gallon. Brandy is slow in sale, and rather cheaper. Sales of Cognac, best brands of 1851, 10s. 8d. to 10s. 10d.; 1850, 10s. 9d. to 10s. 11d.; older, 11s. to 11s. 6d. per gallon. No change in the value of other spirits.

INDIGO.—The demand is steady, at very full prices. Hops.—There is very little business doing in this market, and the quotations are barely supported. Mid and East Kent pockets, 80s. to 120s.; Weald of Kents, 70s. to 95s.; Sussex, 70s. to 94s. per cwt. About 300 bales have arrived this week from abroad. The duty is called £350,000.

POTATOES.—Supplies are large, and in fine condition. Most kinds are a slow sale, at from 6s. to 9s. per ton.

COALS.—Chester Main, 16s. 6d.; Holywell, 18s. 6d.; New Tanfield, 19s.; Redhaugh Main, 15s.; Gosforth, 19s.; Belmont, 20s.; Helton, 21s. 6d.; Lambton, 20s. 9d.; Stewart's, 21s. 6d.; Caradoc, 20s. 6d.; Cassop, 20s.; South Kellie, 20s.; Tees, 21s. 6d. per ton.

OILS.—The demand for linseed oil is very inactive, at 42s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot. Fine sperm is worth £121 per ton. Other oils are dull. Turpentine moves off slowly, at 36s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt. for spirits.

TALLOW.—The quantity despatched from Russia, this year, is only 48,533 casks, against 65,200 casks last year. The price at St. Petersburg has advanced to 140 roubles. Our market is steady, at 65s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot, and 64s. 6d. for the spring. The stock of tallow is now 23,092 casks, against 30,072 ditto in 1854; 21,612 in 1853; 30,771 in 1852; and 65,409 in 1851.

LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26.

BANKRUPTS.—JOSEPH THOMAS, Catherine Street, Strand, newspaper proprietor—RALPH RICHARDSON, Caterham, builder—SAMUEL JONES, Houndsditch, draper and grocer—CHARLES CLAYTON, Wolythampton, ironfounder—DAVID PRATT, Birmingham, thimble manufacturer—CHARLES MOORE, Rochester Road, carpenter—JOHN BOWERMAN, Tipton, grocer and Berlin wool dealer—WALTER MOSS, Ripley, Derbyshire, grocer—WILLIAM LLOYD, Newton-in-the-Willows, Lancashire, butcher—JOHN NICHOLSON, West Derby, surgeon and boarding-house keeper—ARTHUR GREENHILL, Harrow-on-the-Hill, baker—WILLIAM EDWARDS, Cross Street, Finsbury, ale and porter merchant—GEORGE RIDGE and THOMAS JACKSON, Sheffield, stationers—CHRISTOPHER BECKET, Manchester, brewer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—WILLIAM FINDLAY JOHNSTONE, Glasgow, ship owner—JAMES LEITCH LANG, Glasgow, writer.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—ENOCH JONES, Finsbury Terrace, City Road, draper.

BANKRUPTS.—ROBERT TAYLOR, Watt's Terrace, Old Kent Road, baker—FREDERICK LONG, King Street, Cheap-side, warehouseman—WILLIAM LOWE, Birmingham, boot and shoe manufacturer—STEPHEN STINGER, Nottingham Street, Marylebone, coach ironmonger—JOSEPH BROWN, Weymouth, leather seller—MARY SHOOTER (otherwise Ann Bucklow), Sheffield, licensed victualler—THOMAS FRANCIS FEATHERSTONE, York, linen draper—JOHN GRIFFITHS, Wednesfield, Stafford, iron dealer—WILLIAM TAMBLING, Stoke, Devonshire, builder.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—COLIN MORISON, Stormway, wine merchant—ARCHIBALD FALCONER, Port-Glasgow, merchant—JAMES SMITH, Glasgow, surgeon—JOSEPH NIXON, Edinburgh, currier.

STAMMERING.—Monsieur DUVAL effectually corrects the worst cases of Stammering, by a scientific and unique method, unknown in this country. He can refer to gentlemen whom he has cured, who had previously tried in vain the various systems pursued in London. 6, New Road, Oxford.

TO NERVOUS SUFFERERS.—A retired Clergyman, having been restored to health in a few days, after many years of great nervous suffering, is anxious to make known to others the means of CURE: he will therefore send (free) on receiving a stamped envelope, properly addressed, a copy of the prescription used. Direct, Rev. E. DOUGLAS, 18, Holland Street, Brixton, London.

PAINLESS TOOTH EXTRACTION without Chloroform, under the local application of Cold, by Messrs. QUINTON and WEBB, Surgeon Dentists, 21, Southampton Street, Bloomsbury Square, daily from 10 to 4. Sensitive Teeth stopped without pain, under the same process.

BRITISH COLLEGE OF HEALTH, New Road, London.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the LIST for 1855 of HYGIENIC AGENTS duly appointed for the Sale of Mr. MORISON'S (the Hygeist) Vegetable Universal Medicine throughout the world is now printed, and may be had gratis on application as above.—MORISON and Co., Hygeists.

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DEAFNESS.—The ORGANIC VIBRATOR, an extraordinary powerful, small, newly-invented instrument, for Deafness, entirely different from all others, to surpass anything of the kind that has been, or probably ever can be, produced. Being of the same colour as the skin, it is not perceptible. It enables deaf persons to hear distinctly at church and at public assemblies. The unpleasant sensation of supposed noises in the ears is entirely removed; and it affords all the assistance that could possibly be desired.
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